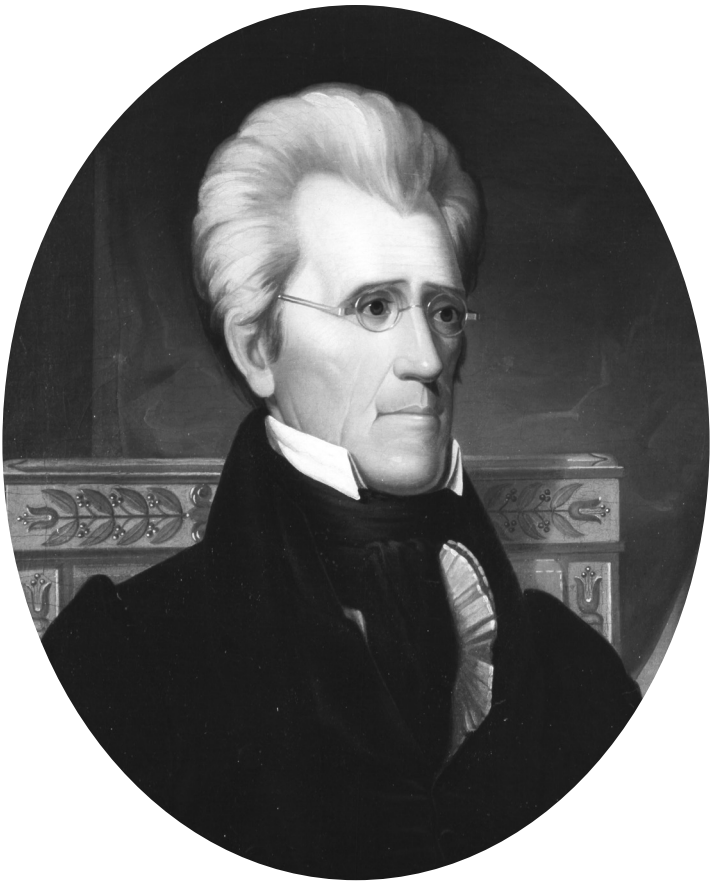
THE PAPERS OF

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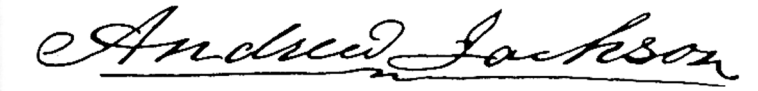
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DANIEL FELLER

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



THE PAPERS OF



VOLUME IX, 1831

DANIEL FELLER

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THOMAS COENS

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How to Use This Volume

HISTORY AND SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

This ninth volume of *The Papers of Andrew Jackson* is the third of Jackson's presidency and also the third produced by the team of Editor Daniel Feller and Associate Editors Laura-Eve Moss and Thomas Coens, joined by Assistant Editor Erik B. Alexander. Our editorial policies, here briefly explained, continue unchanged from the previous volume.

Our aim is to systematically present Andrew Jackson's full extant literary remains. We define "papers" broadly to mean everything written to, by, or for Jackson, or annotated by him—every piece of paper, so to speak, on which Jackson left his DNA. This includes letters sent and received, official documents, drafts, memoranda, and financial and legal records. (For a fuller definition, including some exclusions peculiar to Jackson's presidency, see "What is a Jackson Document?" below.)

The project began some years ago with a worldwide canvass for Jackson papers. This search yielded photocopies of some 100,000 documents held by hundreds of libraries, archives, and private owners. The two largest holdings are in Washington, D.C. The bulk of Jackson's surviving retained personal papers are in the Library of Congress, while the National Archives has many Jackson documents scattered through its holdings of official records of the various branches of the federal government. In 1967 the Library of Congress microfilmed its entire Andrew Jackson Papers collection on 78 reels. The National Archives has also filmed many Jackson documents on its M and T series microfilms of government records. In 1987, when our project's initial document search was complete, we produced a 39-reel Microfilm Supplement containing all Jackson items that were not already on the National Archives or Library of Congress films. (We also included some Library of Congress documents that were misdated or otherwise unfindable on the Library's own film.) As of 1987, then, every known Jackson document had been microfilmed by the Library, the Archives, or us. To provide unified access to them all, our project published *The Papers of Andrew Jackson: Guide and Index to the Microfilm Editions* (Scholarly Resources, Inc., 1987), which listed every document alphabetically by name of author or recipient, with the

microfilm location for each. (For a full listing of microfilms pertinent to this volume, see "Microfilm Series" below.)

Meanwhile our project embarked on its plan to publish a carefully chosen selection of Jackson's papers in sixteen chronological volumes: six pre-presidential, one for each of the eight presidential years, and two post-presidential. This volume is part of that series. Presenting the most significant documents in full annotated text, and summarizing the rest in calendar form, the volume is designed both to stand on its own as a compilation of Jackson's most important papers in 1831 and to offer those who wish to delve further an easy window into the full corpus of papers available on microfilm.

Although our project's initial search for Jackson's papers was painstakingly thorough, new documents continue to surface at a surprising rate. Those discovered in time are incorporated into the chronological volumes, including this one, as they appear. We also plan to gather images of all the documents found since 1987, and therefore absent from the existing microfilms, in a concluding digital supplement when the volume series is complete.

WHAT IS A JACKSON DOCUMENT?

The following types of papers lie within our corpus:

Documents written or signed by Jackson, except those excluded below.

Documents composed for Jackson, such as drafts of his messages.

Documents addressed, written, or delivered to Jackson.

Documents annotated, inscribed, or endorsed by Jackson.

All documents in the Library of Congress Jackson Papers. These were, with no known exceptions, papers received and kept by Jackson even if not addressed to him.

Other items that were microfilmed and included in our *Guide and Index*, especially some civil commissions signed by Jackson and job applications and recommendations addressed to his private secretary, Andrew Jackson Donelson. Even if these do not meet our present definition of Jackson documents, they are retained herein to preserve, as much as possible, a one-to-one correspondence between the listings in the *Guide and Index* and this volume. On the other hand, a very few items that were included as Jackson documents in the microfilm and the *Guide and Index* not by a variant definition but by simple mistake have been omitted.

We exclude the following:

Routine official documents bearing Jackson's signature as president (unless appearing in the microfilm and *Guide and Index*, as above). These are often printed forms with handwritten insertions. They include civil

and military commissions, land patents, proclamations of federal land sales, diplomatic credentials, consular exequaturs, and ship passes.

Reported utterances, conversations, or remarks by Jackson, unless made from a written text.

Communications made by others in Jackson's name, such as a letter from a government official beginning "the president directs me to say . . . ."

Published materials ostensibly addressed or inscribed to Jackson or to the president, unless known to have been sent to him or seen by him.

Spurious documents, either faked, forged, or misattributed. We have encountered no prominent spurious documents for 1831.

ORGANIZATION AND PRESENTATION

This volume contains three parts. The main body presents full texts of Andrew Jackson's most significant papers from 1831 with explanatory notes. Following afterward is a calendar—a chronological listing of *all* the papers, with a brief content synopsis for each document that is not printed in the main text, and an italicized page reference for each one that is. The calendar thus also functions as a table of contents for the main text. Together, text and calendar account for every 1831 Jackson document falling within our definition of his papers. The index at the back provides full coverage of document authors, recipients, and contents for both text and calendar.

The volume text, calendar, and index can be used in tandem with each other and with the microfilms and microfilm *Guide and Index* to pursue almost any kind of research inquiry. If the subject is a person, say John Doe, the *Guide and Index* will give dates and microfilm locations for all letters he wrote to, or received from, Jackson. Each letter will also be either printed in the appropriate volume or summarized in its calendar. If Doe is mentioned in a letter by someone else, that mention will appear in the volume index. Reaping the full benefit of a volume requires consulting calendar as well as main text, and using the index as a guide to both.

Selection of Documents for Printing

Of a total of 1,986 Jackson documents in the year 1831, 548 are presented here in full text. The rest are calendared. We have selected for printing what we judge to be the most significant papers, defining significance by the broadest possible criteria: those documents that most illuminate Jackson, his presidency, his country, and his times. In general we have made our decision to print a document without regard to whether it has been previously published. However, Jackson's public papers—his

official presidential addresses, messages, and proclamations—constitute a special case.

Jackson's Official Papers

Jackson's presidential public papers in 1831 include his third annual message to Congress, several proclamations, messages to the Senate concerning nominations for office or ratification of treaties, and various special messages to one or both houses of Congress, often transmitting documents or reports. (There were no presidential vetoes in 1831.) Nearly all these papers have been published in one or more of three official series. First, many messages to Congress with their attachments were immediately printed by order of the House or Senate and included in the consecutively numbered volumes of congressional documents known as the Serial Set. Secondly, messages concerning nominations and treaties, received by the Senate in executive session, were later collected and published in Volume IV of the *Journal of the Executive Proceedings of the Senate of the United States of America*. Lastly, at the end of the nineteenth century James D. Richardson published under congressional authorization *A Compilation of the Messages and Papers of the Presidents 1789–1897* in ten volumes, the second and third of which embraced Jackson's presidency. Richardson's compilation was itself included in the Serial Set (*House Miscellaneous Document* 210, 53d Congress, 2d session, Serial 3265) and was reissued in several later editions. (These editions were variously repaginated. All page citations herein are to the original, official Serial Set version.)

Today all three publications are widely available, not only in print but in searchable electronic text. (As of this writing, the *Senate Executive Proceedings* and portions of the Serial Set, along with the *Statutes at Large* and congressional journals and records of debates, can be found on the Library of Congress website entitled "A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation.") The texts in these official series are reliable and authoritative. It would be pointless for this volume to reproduce published government documents that readers can find at their fingertips, and to do so would consume much precious space. Accordingly we have determined not to print the final, official texts of any presidential papers that appeared in the Serial Set, the *Senate Executive Proceedings*, or Richardson. The manuscript originals of these documents, residing now generally in the National Archives, were microfilmed by our project and listed in the *Guide and Index*. They are calendared here, and their publication in official series is uniformly noted. But they are not printed. However, we do print the rare presidential message that escaped official publication; and we also print drafts, where such exist and differ significantly from the final versions. Readers may trace the evolution of, for instance, Jackson's third annual message to Congress or his special message to the Senate on Indian

removal by comparing the drafts in this volume to the final texts in the Serial Set or Richardson.

For a full listing of Jackson's 1831 public papers with their official publication record, see the table "Jackson's Presidential Public Papers" below.

Ordering of Documents

The general order of documents is chronological. In the calendar, inferred dates are given in brackets; estimated ones are preceded by c (*circa*). Within each day, letters from Jackson, arranged alphabetically by recipient, come first, followed by letters to Jackson alphabetically by author, then other Jackson documents, and lastly third-party correspondence. However, where a chronology can be established within a day—an exchange of notes back and forth, for instance—the documents composing it are grouped in sequence. Documents with spread dates, such as running financial accounts, are placed at their opening date. Items within a month, or within the year 1831, that cannot be dated more precisely go at the end of the month or year respectively. Undated entries in Jackson's presidential memorandum book are placed at their most likely date of composition. Three undated narratives that Jackson probably composed in 1831, one on the Cabinet dissolution and two on the Seminole controversy, are grouped at the end of the year.

Transcription

Each document printed here is presented in full, including all endorsements or notations by Jackson on documents written by others. The originals of most documents are handwritten. Where the original is a printed text, for instance a letter published in a contemporary newspaper, its appearance and typography have been replicated as closely as possible.

Converting handwriting to print is an inexact process. It requires rendering a nearly limitless array of pen markings into a finite set of typographic characters. In Jackson's era, even practiced writers often used punctuation marks that lay somewhere between clear dashes, periods, commas, or semicolons; and they formed letters such as *c*, *m*, and *s* not simply in upper or lower case but in a variety of styles and gradations of size. Jackson, for instance, had at least three, not two, distinct ways of making an *a* and a *t*.

That said, within the limits of the medium, our policy is to reproduce the original text as closely as possible, retaining its peculiarities of grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation. When Jackson reversed "the" and "they," as he sometimes did, we have transcribed just what he wrote, without comment or *[sic]*. The following are exceptions and clarifications. Inadvertent word repetitions ("and and"), nonfunctional dashes following other punctuation, and addressees' names at the end of

a document have been omitted. Superscript characters have been brought down to the main line. Dates placed at the bottom of a document have been moved up to the top, and interlined or marginal additions have been inserted in the text at the spot marked by the writer. Cross-outs, where decipherable, are represented by lined-through text. Interpolated readings of missing or obscured text are bracketed; where conjectural, they are also italicized. Complimentary closings to letters ("your obedient servant") have been run onto the preceding text. Implied but unpunctuated sentence breaks, as at the end of a line, are represented by elongated spacing.

Annotation

Each printed document is followed by a source note that identifies its type, its repository or owner, its location on microfilm (in parentheses), and its place of previous publication, as shown in the example below. Where more than one version of a document exists, the one we print is listed first.

> ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-70). AL draft, THi (12-1456); LC, DLC (60). *Globe*, July 29, 1831; *Niles*, July 30. *Doe Papers*, 18:243.

In this sample case, our printed text is from an Autograph Letter Signed (ALS)—a letter handwritten and signed by its sender—housed in Record Group 59 of the National Archives (DNA-RG 59) and filmed on Reel 70 of National Archives microfilm series M179 (M179-70). There is also an unsigned draft of the letter in the sender's hand (AL draft) in the Tennessee Historical Society (THi) and filmed on Reel 12, frame 1456, of the Microfilm Supplement produced by this project; and also a letterbook copy (LC) held by the Library of Congress (DLC) and filmed on Reel 60 of the Library's Jackson Papers microfilm. The letter was published contemporaneously in the Washington *Globe* and *Niles' Weekly Register* and also in the modern *Papers of John Doe*.

For lists and explanations of document types, repositories, microfilm series, and publication titles, see "Codes and Symbols" below. Our general policy in noting previous publication of a document is to cite the first or earliest known contemporary printing and the most authoritative modern one. For convenience, we also note contemporary reprinting in *Niles' Weekly Register*, the great national news compendium of its day. For items we print, we do not cite previous appearance in John Spencer Bassett's *Correspondence of Andrew Jackson*, which our series supersedes.

The source note also presents information germane to or explanatory of the document as a whole. Numbered footnotes, keyed to callouts in the text, give further information on particular points. Our aim is to offer only what facts are necessary to make a document intelligible and to place it in immediate context, leaving the rest to the reader.

We have tried to briefly identify, with full name and dates, each person named in the text at the point of his or her first significant appearance. A caution is however in order. Systematic government recording of births, deaths, and legal names began long after 1831. In the absence of authoritative official records, family researchers have assembled a plethora of genealogical data of highly variable provenance and quality. We have used such information only with extreme care. Still, readers should be aware that dates and full names for many people appearing in this volume are less than certain.

We have not routinely employed cross-referencing footnotes to link up related documents within the volume, as these may be located by using the index and calendar. When Jackson writes to Smith, "I have received yours of the 17th instant," that letter, if extant, will appear in the calendar at its proper date ("instant" means this month; "ultimo" means last month) and it, with all other mentions of Smith, will be indexed under his name. Likewise we have not noted "not found" for Smith's letter if it is not extant or not known to us. The calendar includes all found documents. Any letter not listed in it was not found.

Calendar

In the calendar, each entry for a document printed in the volume is italicized, with a page reference to the main text. For a document not printed in the volume, the calendar presents the same identifying and locating information as a text source note (see "Annotation" above), followed by a brief synopsis of contents. To show their common origin, we have in a few instances merged the entries for substantively identical documents of the same date, such as multiple copies of a petition. Routine Jackson notations on incoming documents—for instance, referring a letter to one of the executive departments—are not mentioned in the calendar. However, we have noted substantive Jackson endorsements, and also those on third-party letters where the endorsement is what makes the item a Jackson document.

Index

In the index, a reference to a single page in the calendar may signify more than one item on that page. To help the reader go directly to Jackson's correspondence with a particular person or group in the main text, the index entry for the person or group begins with page numbers for the correspondence, in bold italics.

Codes and Symbols

DOCUMENT TYPES

Abbreviations

A	Autograph—written in the author's hand
D	Document—a manuscript document other than a note or letter
L	Letter—a manuscript letter
LC	Letterbook copy—a handwritten copy recorded in a letterbook
N	Note—a brief informal manuscript message or memorandum
S	Signed—bearing the author's signature

Other Notations

Abstract	A précis of a document
Copy	A handwritten copy
Draft	A handwritten draft
Duplicate	A document created in identical multiple versions
Extract	A copied or printed excerpt from a document
Facsimile	A pictorial image of a manuscript document
Fragment	A partial document
Printed	A printed document

Sample Combinations

AL	Autograph Letter—an unsigned sent letter, written by the sender
ALS	Autograph Letter Signed—a sent letter, written and signed by the sender
ALS copy	Autograph Letter Signed copy—a copy of a sent letter, written and signed by the sender
ALS draft	Autograph Letter Signed draft—a draft of a sent letter, written and signed by the sender
LS	Letter Signed—a sent letter, signed by the sender but written in another hand

REPOSITORIES

A-Ar	Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery
AMobM	Museum of Mobile, Mobile, Ala.
ArU	University of Arkansas, Fayetteville
CSmH	Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Calif.
CtHi	Connecticut Historical Society, Hartford
CtY	Yale University, New Haven, Conn.
CU-BANC	Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley
DCHi	Historical Society of Washington, D.C.
DCU	Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.
DeGH	Hagley Museum and Library, Greenville, Del.
DeHi	Historical Society of Delaware, Wilmington
DLC	Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
DNA	National Archives, Washington, D.C.
	RG 11, General Records of the United States Government
	RG 15, Records of the Department of Veterans Affairs
	RG 26, Records of the United States Coast Guard
	RG 28, Records of the Post Office Department
	RG 45, Naval Records Collection of the Office of Naval Records and Library
	RG 46, Records of the United States Senate
	RG 48, Records of the Office of the Secretary of the Interior
	RG 49, Records of the Bureau of Land Management
	RG 50, Records of the Treasurer of the United States
	RG 56, General Records of the Department of the Treasury
	RG 59, General Records of the Department of State
	RG 60, General Records of the Department of Justice
	RG 75, Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs
	RG 76, Records of Boundary and Claims Commissions and Arbitrations
	RG 77, Records of the Office of the Chief of Engineers
	RG 84, Records of the Foreign Service Posts of the Department of State
	RG 92, Records of the Office of the Quartermaster General
	RG 94, Records of the Adjutant General's Office
	RG 99, Records of the Office of the Paymaster General
	RG 104, Records of the U.S. Mint
	RG 107, Records of the Office of the Secretary of War
	RG 108, Records of the Headquarters of the Army

	RG 112, Records of the Office of the Surgeon General (Army)
	RG 125, Records of the Office of the Judge Advocate General (Navy)
	RG 127, Records of the United States Marine Corps
	RG 153, Records of the Office of the Judge Advocate General (Army)
	RG 206, Records of the Solicitor of the Treasury
	RG 217, Records of the Accounting Officers of the Department of the Treasury
	RG 233, Records of the United States House of Representatives
FrPMAE	Archives du Ministère des Affaires Étrangères, Paris
FTaSA	Florida State Archives, Tallahassee
G-Ar	Georgia State Department of Archives and History, Atlanta
GHi	Georgia Historical Society, Savannah
IaDaPM	Putnam Museum, Davenport, Iowa
I-Ar	Illinois State Library, Archives Division, Springfield
ICHi	Chicago Historical Society, Chicago, Ill.
IHi	Illinois State Historical Library, Springfield
InHi	Indiana Historical Society, Indianapolis
KHi	Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka
KyBgW	Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green
KyLoF	Filson Club, Louisville, Ky.
MB	Boston Public Library, Boston, Mass.
MdAA	Hall of Records Commission, Maryland State Archives, Annapolis
MdHi	Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore
MH-H	Houghton Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.
MHi	Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston
MiDbEI	Edison Institute, Henry Ford Museum, and Greenfield Village Library, Dearborn, Mich.
MiU-C	William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
MiU-H	Michigan Historical Collection, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
MoSW	Washington University, Saint Louis
MWalA	American Jewish Historical Society, Waltham, Mass.
N	New York State Library, Albany
Nc	North Carolina State Library, Raleigh
NcD	Duke University, Durham, N.C.
NcU	University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
NHi	New-York Historical Society, New York, N.Y.
NIC	Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y.

NjHi	New Jersey Historical Society, Newark
NjP	Princeton University, Princeton, N.J.
NN	New York Public Library, New York, N.Y.
NNMus	Museum of the City of New York, New York, N.Y.
NNPM	Pierpont Morgan Library, New York, N.Y.
OClWHi	Western Reserve Historical Society, Cleveland, Ohio
OhKeUSC	Department of Special Collections and Archives, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio
PHi	Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
PMA	Allegheny College, Meadville, Pa.
PPiRP	Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Pittsburgh, Pa.
PPRF	Rosenbach Foundation, Philadelphia, Pa.
PU	University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
ScCleU	Clemson University, Clemson, S.C.
T	Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville
THer	Ladies' Hermitage Association, Hermitage, Tenn.
THi	Tennessee Historical Society, Nashville
TLWil	Wilson County Archives, Lebanon, Tenn.
TMM	University of Memphis, Memphis, Tenn.
TMRu	Rutherford County Archives, Murfreesboro, Tenn.
TNJ	Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn.
TU	University of Tennessee, Knoxville
TxU	University of Texas, Austin
UkLPR	Public Record Office, Kew, Surrey, England
UkOxU-AS	Oxford University, All Soul's College, Oxford, England
Vi	Virginia State Library, Richmond
ViFreJM	James Monroe Museum and Memorial Library, Fredericksburg, Va.

MICROFILM SERIES

Microfilm citations (in parentheses) are of four types:

40	The Library of Congress Andrew Jackson Papers microfilm, listed by reel number (reel 40). For contents of reels cited in this volume, see below.
M179-70 or T967-1	National Archives microfilms, listed by publication series and reel number (series M179, reel 70, or series T967, reel 1). For series titles cited in this volume, see below.
12-1456	*The Papers of Andrew Jackson* Microfilm Supplement, listed by reel and frame number (reel 12, frame 1456).

mAJs	Items acquired since 1987 and therefore not included on the Library of Congress, National Archives, or project microfilms. These will be collected in an addendum at the project's conclusion.

Library of Congress Andrew Jackson Papers Reels, 1831

38–40	General correspondence
58–59	Undated correspondence
60	Undated correspondence & letterbook
64	Memorandum book
73–75	Correspondence
76	Presidential message drafts
78	Bank book and financial records

National Archives Microfilms

M6	RG 107: Letters Sent by the Secretary of War Relating to Military Affairs, 1800–1889
M18	RG 75: Register of Letters Received by the Office of Indian Affairs, 1824–1880
M21	RG 75: Letters Sent by the Office of Indian Affairs, 1824–1881
M22	RG 107: Registers of Letters Received by the Office of the Secretary of War, Main Series, 1800–1870
M25	RG 49: Miscellaneous Letters Sent by the General Land Office, 1796–1889
M27	RG 49: Letters Sent by the General Land Office to Surveyors General, 1796–1901
M30	RG 59: Despatches from U.S. Ministers to Great Britain, 1791–1906
M34	RG 59: Despatches from U.S. Ministers to France, 1789–1906
M35	RG 59: Despatches from U.S. Ministers to Russia, 1808–1906
M38	RG 59: Notes From the Department of State to Foreign Ministers and Consuls in the United States, 1793–1834
M39	RG 59: Notes From the Russian Legation in the United States to the Department of State, 1809–1906
M40	RG 59: Domestic Letters of the Department of State, 1784–1906
M42	RG 59: Despatches from U.S. Ministers to the Netherlands, 1794–1906

M46	RG 59: Despatches from U.S. Ministers to Turkey, 1818–1906
M50	RG 59: Notes From the British Legation in the United States to the Department of State, 1791–1906
M51	RG 59: Notes from the Colombian Legation in the United States to the Department of State, 1810–1906
M53	RG 59: Notes From the French Legation in the United States to the Department of State, 1789–1906
M56	RG 59: Notes from the Netherlands Legation in the United States to the Department of State, 1784–1906
M69	RG 59: Despatches from U.S. Ministers to Argentina, 1817–1906
M77	RG 59: Diplomatic Instructions of the Department of State, 1801–1906
M78	RG 59: Consular Instructions of the Department of State, 1801–1834
M97	RG 59: Despatches from U.S. Ministers to Mexico, 1823–1906
M124	RG 45: Letters Received by the Secretary of the Navy: Miscellaneous Letters, 1801–1884
M125	RG 45: Letters Received by the Secretary of the Navy: Captains' Letters, 1805–1861
M127	RG 107: Letters Sent to the President by the Secretary of War, 1800–1863
M148	RG 45: Letters Received by the Secretary of the Navy from Officers Below the Rank of Commander, 1802–1884
M149	RG 45: Letters Sent by the Secretary of the Navy to Officers, 1798–1868
M178	RG 56: Correspondence of the Secretary of the Treasury with Collectors of Customs, 1789–1833
M179	RG 59: Miscellaneous Letters of the Department of State, 1789–1906
M199	RG 59: Despatches from U.S. Consuls at Santa Fe, 1830–1846
M205	RG 45: Correspondence of the Secretary of the Navy Relating to African Colonization, 1819–1844
M209	RG 45: Miscellaneous Letters Sent by the Secretary of the Navy, 1798–1886
M219	RG 59: Despatches from U.S. Ministers to Central America, 1824–1906
M221	RG 107: Letters Received by the Secretary of War, Registered Series, 1801–1870
M222	RG 107: Letters Received by the Secretary of War, Unregistered Series, 1789–1861

M234	RG 75: Letters Received by the Office of Indian Affairs, 1824–1881
M235	RG 217: Miscellaneous Treasury Accounts of the First Auditor (Formerly The Auditor) of the Treasury Department, 1790–1840
M273	RG 125: Records of General Courts-Martial and Courts of Inquiry of the Navy Department, 1799–1867
M441	RG 45: Letters Sent by the Secretary of the Navy to Commandants and Navy Agents, 1808–1865
M459	RG 59: Despatches from U.S. Consuls in Odessa, Russia, 1831–1906
M472	RG 45: Letters Sent by the Secretary of the Navy to the President and Executive Agencies, 1821–1886
M565	RG 94: Letters Sent by the Office of the Adjutant General (Main Series), 1800–1890
M567	RG 94: Letters Received by the Office of the Adjutant General (Main Series), 1822–1860
M601	RG 28: Letters Sent by the Postmaster General, 1789–1836
M639	RG 59: Letters of Application and Recommendation During the Administration of Andrew Jackson, 1829–1837
M664	RG 59: Notes from Foreign Consuls in the United States to the Department of State, 1789–1906
M668	RG 11: Ratified Indian Treaties, 1722–1869
M688	RG 94: U. S. Military Academy Cadet Application Papers, 1805–1866
M699	RG 60: Letters Sent by the Department of Justice: General and Miscellaneous, 1818–1904
M733	RG 56: Letters Sent by the Secretary of the Treasury Relating to Public Lands ('N' Series), 1801–1878
M745	RG 92: Letters Sent by the Office of the Quartermaster General (Main Series), 1818–1870
M804	RG 15: Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files
M857	RG 108: Letters Sent by the Headquarters of the Army (Main Series), 1828–1903
M873	RG 59: Letters of Application and Recommendation During the Administrations of James Polk, Zachary Taylor, and Millard Fillmore, 1845–1853
M1372	RG 59: Passport Applications, 1795–1905
M1635	RG 108: Letters Received by the Headquarters of the Army, 1827–1903
T1	RG 59: Despatches From U.S. Consuls in Paris, France, 1790–1906

T33	RG 59: Despatches From U.S. Ministers to Colombia, 1820–1906
T168	RG 59: Despatches from U.S. Consuls in London, England, 1790–1906
T239	RG 59: Despatches from U.S. Consuls in Southampton, England, 1790–1906
T339	RG 59: Despatches from U.S. Consuls in Matanzas, Cuba, 1820–1899
T412	RG 60: Opinions of the Attorney General, 1817–1832
T494	RG 75: Documents Relating to the Negotiation of Ratified and Unratified Treaties With Various Indian Tribes, 1801–1869
T967	RG 59: Copies of Presidential Pardons and Remissions, 1794–1893
T1223	RG 11: Presidential Proclamations 1–2160, 1789–1936

PUBLICATION SHORT TITLES

Annals of Congress	*The Debates and Proceedings in the Congress of the United States*. 42 vols. Washington, D.C., 1834–1856.
ASP	*American State Papers: Documents, Legislative and Executive, of the Congress of the United States*. 38 vols. Washington, D.C., 1832–1861.
Bassett	John Spencer Bassett, ed., *Correspondence of Andrew Jackson*. 7 vols. Washington, D.C., 1926–1935.
Black Hawk War	Ellen M. Whitney, ed., *The Black Hawk War, 1831–1832*. Volume 2, Part 1. Springfield, Ill., 1973.
Calhoun Papers	W. Edwin Hemphill and Clyde N. Wilson, eds., *The Papers of John C. Calhoun*. 28 vols. Columbia, S.C., 1959–2003.
Clay Papers	James F. Hopkins et al., eds., *The Papers of Henry Clay*. 11 vols. Lexington, Ky., 1959–1992.
Globe	Washington, D.C., *The Globe*.
Hamilton *Reminiscences*	*Reminiscences of James A. Hamilton*. New York, 1869.
Historic Madison	Emma Inman Williams, *Historic Madison: The Story of Jackson and Madison County, Tennessee, from the Prehistoric Moundbuilders to 1917*. Jackson, Tenn., 1946.
House Journal	U.S. Congress, House of Representatives, *Journal of the House of Representatives of the United States*.

HRDoc	U.S. Congress, House of Representatives, *House Documents*.
HRExdoc	U.S. Congress, House of Representatives, *House Executive Documents*.
HRRep	U.S. Congress, House of Representatives, *House Reports*.
Illinois Governors' Letter-Books	Evarts B. Greene and Clarence W. Alvord, eds., *The Governors' Letter-Books*. Volume 1: 1818–1834. Springfield, Ill., 1909.
Indian Treaties	Charles J. Kappler, ed., *Indian Affairs: Laws and Treaties*. 2 vols. Washington, D.C., 1904.
Jackson Papers	Harold D. Moser et al., eds., *The Papers of Andrew Jackson*. 9 vols. to date. Knoxville, Tenn., 1980–.
Nat. Intelligencer	Washington, D.C., *Daily National Intelligencer.*
Niles	*Niles' Weekly Register.*
"Northeast Boundary"	Untitled message to the Senate, confidentially printed, December 7, 1831, Congressional Information Service # 22-1-2.
Polk Correspondence	Herbert Weaver et al., eds., *Correspondence of James K. Polk*. 11 vols. to date. Nashville and Knoxville, Tenn., 1969–.
Register of Debates	U.S. Congress, *Register of Debates in Congress*. 14 vols. Washington, D.C., 1825–1837.
Richardson	James D. Richardson, ed., *A Compilation of the Messages and Papers of the Presidents, 1789–1897*. 10 vols. Washington, D.C., 1896–1899.
SDoc	U.S. Congress, Senate, *Senate Documents*.
Senate Executive Proceedings	*Journal of the Executive Proceedings of the Senate of the United States of America.*
Senate Journal	U.S. Congress, Senate, *Journal of the Senate of the United States of America.*
Serial	*United States Congressional Serial Set.*
SMisDoc	U.S. Congress, Senate, *Senate Miscellaneous Documents.*
Statutes	Richard Peters, ed., *The Public Statutes at Large of the United States of America, from the Organization of the Government in 1789, to March 3, 1845*. 8 vols. Boston, 1845–1846.
TPUS	Clarence E. Carter and John Porter Bloom, eds., *The Territorial Papers of the United States*. 28 vols. Washington, D.C., 1934–1975.
Treaties	Hunter Miller, ed., *Treaties and other International Acts of the United States of America*. 8 vols. Washington, D.C., 1931–1948.

U.S. Reports	*Reports of Decisions in the Supreme Court of the United States*. 552 vols. to date. Boston, New York, and Washington, D.C., 1875–.
US Telegraph	Washington, D.C., *United States' Telegraph*.
Van Buren *Autobiography*	John C. Fitzpatrick, ed., *The Autobiography of Martin Van Buren*. Washington, D.C., 1920.

ABBREVIATIONS

ABCFM	American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
ACS	American Colonization Society
AJ	Andrew Jackson
BUS	Bank of the United States
GLO	General Land Office

Lists and Tables

1831 CHRONOLOGY

Jan 10	William I of the Netherlands issues Northeast boundary arbitration award
Jan 22	Washington *Globe* announces AJ's reelection candidacy
Feb 17	Calhoun publishes his Seminole correspondence with AJ
Mar 3	Twenty-first Congress ends
Mar 8	Andrew J. Donelson leaves Washington for Tennessee
Mar 18	Supreme Court decides *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*
Apr 7 & 11	Cabinet secretaries Eaton and Van Buren tender resignations
Apr 19	Cabinet secretaries Branch and Ingham resign at AJ's behest
Apr 20	Edward Livingston accepts the State Department; Hugh L. White declines the War Department
Apr 27	Levi Woodbury accepts the Navy Department
cMay	AJ engages Nicholas P. Trist as secretary, replacing Donelson
May 3	Branch writes a letter charging "malign influences" in the late Cabinet, published May 12
Jun 3	John Rhea demands that James Monroe admit authorizing AJ's seizure of Florida in 1818
Jun 6	Louis McLane accepts the Treasury Department
Jun 15	Attorney General Berrien resigns
Jun 18	Eaton demands "satisfaction" from Ingham
Jun 20	Ingham's last day at the Treasury; Eaton seeks him in the streets
Jun 21	AJ offers Roger Taney the attorney generalship; Taney accepts Jun 24
Jun 22	Ingham leaves town, accusing Eaton and companions of plotting assassination

Jun 24	AJ leaves for the Rip Raps, returning to Washington Jul 7
Jun 30	Sac Indians led by Black Hawk agree to vacate Illinois
Jul 4	William C. Rives concludes a claims convention with France. James Monroe dies in New York City
Jul 8	AJ appoints Lewis Cass secretary of war
Jul 15	AJ approves removing Georgia Cherokees by individual enrollment
Jul 22	Berrien writes an exposition on the Cabinet breakup, published Jul 23
Jul 25	Eaton challenges Berrien
Jul 30	Dutch jewel thief Constant Polari is arrested in New York City
Aug 3	First publication of Calhoun's "Fort Hill Address" espousing nullification
Aug 4–5	Tennessee congressional elections: Robert M. Burton and David Crockett lose
Aug 16	Martin Van Buren sails from New York as minister to Britain
Aug 22	Nat Turner mounts Virginia slave rebellion
Aug 25	Branch's Aug 22 letter on the Cabinet dissolution is published
Sep 5	Andrew J. and Emily Donelson arrive back in Washington
Sep 15	Eaton publishes *Candid Appeal* in reply to Ingham, Branch, and Berrien. Georgia convicts missionary Samuel A. Worcester for unlicensed residence among the Cherokees
Sep 19	The Eatons leave Washington for Tennessee
Sep 28	Anti-Masons nominate William Wirt for president
Sep 30	National "Free Trade Convention" convenes in Philadelphia
Oct 7	British House of Lords rejects parliamentary reform bill
Nov 24	Andrew Jackson Jr. marries Sarah Yorke in Philadelphia
Dec 5	Twenty-second Congress convenes
Dec 6	AJ sends in his third annual message
Dec 7	AJ submits Northeast boundary arbitration award to the Senate
Dec 13	National Republicans nominate Henry Clay for president
Dec 22	Senate rejects Samuel Gwin for a Mississippi land office

JACKSON'S PRESIDENTIAL PUBLIC PAPERS, 1831

DATE	DOCUMENT TYPE[1]	RECIPIENT	RICHARD-SON[2]	*JEPS*[3]	SERIAL SET[4]	*PAJ*[5]
Jan 3	Message	Congress	532–33		203	
Jan 3	Indian Treaty	Senate	532	141		
Jan 5	Message	House	533		206	
Jan 5	Nomination	Senate		143–44		
Jan 7	Nomination	Senate		143		
Jan 7	Message	House	533		207	
Jan 11	Message	Congress	533		202	
Jan 12	Message	Congress			207	
Jan 15	Message	House	534		208	
Jan 15	Nomination	Senate		146		
Jan 15	Message	Senate	534	147		
Jan 18	Nomination	Senate		145–46		
Jan 18	Nomination	Senate		146		
Jan 24	Message	Senate	534		203	
Jan 25	Message	House	534		208	
Jan 25	Message	House			208	
Jan 25	Nomination	Senate		146		
Jan 26	Treaty	Senate	534–35	146–47		
Jan 31	Nomination	Senate		146		
Feb 1	Nomination	Senate		148		
Feb 1	Nomination	Senate		150		
Feb 3	Message	House	535		208	
Feb 3	Message	Senate	535		202	
Feb 4	Nomination	Senate		151		
Feb 4	Nomination	Senate		151		
Feb 7	Nomination	Senate		152		
Feb 7	Nomination	Senate		152		
Feb 7	Nomination	Senate		152		
Feb 7	Nomination	Senate		153–54		
Feb 8	Nomination	Senate		153		
Feb 8	Nomination	Senate		153		
Feb 9	Nomination	Senate		154		
Feb 10	Nomination	Senate		154		
Feb 10	Proclamation		543–44			

DATE	DOCUMENT TYPE[1]	RECIPIENT	RICHARD-SON[2]	*JEPS*[3]	SERIAL SET[4]	*PAJ*[5]
Feb 10	Proclamation				209	
Feb 11	Nomination	Senate		157		
Feb [14]	Nomination	Senate		154		
Feb 14	Nomination	Senate		154		
Feb 15	Message	House	535–36		205	
Feb 16	Nomination	Senate		157		
Feb 16	Nomination	Senate		157		
Feb 17	Nomination	Senate		157		
Feb 18	Nomination	Senate		158		
Feb 18	Nomination	Senate		158		
Feb 19	Message	Congress	536		209	
Feb 19	Nomination	Senate		160		
Feb 21	Nomination	Senate		160		
Feb 22	Message	Congress	536		210	
Feb 22	Message	Senate	536–41		204	94–99
Feb 22	Nomination	Senate		163		
Feb 22	Nomination	Senate		163		
Feb 22	Nomination	Senate		163		
Feb 22	Nomination	Senate		163		
Feb 22	Nomination	Senate		163		
Feb 22	Nomination	Senate		163		
Feb 23	Nomination	Senate		164		
Feb 23	Nomination	Senate		164		
[Feb 23]	Nomination	Senate		164		
Feb 23	Indian Treaty	Senate	541–42	165		
Feb 24	Nomination	Senate		164		
Feb 26	Message	Senate	541		204	
Feb 28	Message	House	542		205	
Feb 28	Nomination	Senate		164		
Feb [28]	Nomination	Senate		164		
Feb 28	Nomination	Senate		167		
Feb 28	Indian Treaty	Senate	542	165		
Mar 1	Message	Congress	542		209	
Mar 1	Nomination	Senate		167		
Mar 1	Nomination	Senate		167		
Mar 2	Message	Congress	542		209	

DATE	DOCUMENT TYPE[1]	RECIPIENT	RICHARD-SON[2]	*JEPS*[3]	SERIAL SET[4]	*PAJ*[5]
Mar 2	Nomination	Senate	543	167		
Mar 2	Nomination	Senate		170		
Mar 2	Nomination	Senate		170		
Mar 2	Nomination	Senate		170		
Mar 2	Nomination	Senate		170		
Mar 2	Nomination	Senate		170		
Mar 2	Nomination	Senate		171		
Mar 2	Nomination	Senate		171		
Mar 2	Nomination	Senate		171		
Mar 3	Nomination	Senate		175		
Mar 3	Nomination	Senate		172		
Mar 3	Nomination	Senate		175		
Mar 3	Nomination	Senate		175		
Mar 3	Nomination	Senate		172		
Dec 6	Annual Message	Congress	544–58		216	733–54
Dec 6	Treaty	Senate	558	179		
Dec 7	Message	Congress	559–60		216	
Dec 7	Treaty	Senate	559	179–80		760–62
Dec 7	Nomination	Senate		177		
Dec 7	Nomination	Senate		177–79		
Dec 8	Nomination	Senate		180–81		
Dec 8	Nomination	Senate		181		
Dec 8	Nomination	Senate		181–82		
Dec 8	Nomination	Senate		182		
Dec 9	Nomination	Senate		185		
Dec 13	Message	Congress	560		216	
Dec 13	Message	Senate	560		212	
Dec 19	Nomination	Senate		190		
Dec 19	Nomination	Senate		186		
Dec 19	Nomination	Senate		186–87		
Dec 21	Message	Congress	560		217	
Dec 21	Treaty	Senate	560–61	187		
Dec 23	Nomination	Senate		189		
Dec 23	Nomination	Senate		190		

DATE	DOCUMENT TYPE[1]	RECIPIENT	RICHARDSON[2]	*JEPS*[3]	SERIAL SET[4]	*PAJ*[5]
Dec 24	Nomination	Senate		191		
Dec 27	Nomination	Senate		191		
Dec 28	Nomination	Senate		192		
Dec 28	Nomination	Senate		192		
Dec 29	Message	House	561		217	
Dec 29	Nomination	Senate		192		
Dec 30	Nomination	Senate		192		
Dec 30	Nomination	Senate		192		
[Dec]	Nomination	Senate (Not Sent)				791–94

1. Presidential communications to Congress are as follows. "Annual Message" is the general message reviewing the state of the Union, delivered to both houses of Congress at the opening of its regular annual session. "Nomination" is a message to the Senate, received in executive session, submitting or discussing nominations of civil or military officers whose appointments require Senate advice and consent. "Treaty" or "Indian Treaty" is a message to the Senate, received in executive session, submitting or discussing treaties whose ratification requires Senate advice and consent. "Message" is any other message to either or both houses of Congress.

2. Page numbers in vol. 2 of James D. Richardson, ed., *A Compilation of the Messages and Papers of the Presidents, 1789–1897* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1896), *House Miscellaneous Document* 210, 53d Cong., 2d sess., Serial 3265.

3. Page numbers in vol. 4 of *Journal of the Executive Proceedings of the Senate of the United States of America* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1887).

4. Volume numbers within the *United States Congressional Serial Set*. For a document's number and location within the Serial Set volume, see the calendar listing for it herein.

5. Page numbers in this volume of *The Papers of Andrew Jackson*.

JACKSON'S DONELSON FAMILY CONNECTIONS, 1831

(ages on January 1, 1831)
(deceased persons in italics)
(Volume IX correspondents in boldface)

First generation: children of *John Donelson* and *Rachel Stockley*
Second generation
Third generation

Alexander Donelson, 79

Catherine Donelson, c78, m. *Thomas Hutchings*
John Hutchings m. *Mary Smith*
Andrew Jackson Hutchings, 19

John Donelson m. Mary Purnell, 67
John Donelson, 43, m. Eliza Eleanor Butler, 39
Lemuel Donelson, 41
Rachel Donelson m. *William Eastin*
Mary Ann Eastin, 20
Elizabeth Donelson Eastin, 13
John Donelson Eastin, 10
Rachel Jackson Eastin, 8
Mary Donelson, 37, m. **John Coffee**, 58
Mary Donelson Coffee, 18
John Donelson Coffee, 15
Andrew Jackson Coffee, 11
William Donelson, 35, m. Elizabeth Anderson, 21[3]
Elizabeth Donelson, 34, m. **John Christmas McLemore**, 40
Mary McLemore, 14
Andrew Jackson McLemore, 10
Catherine Donelson, 31, m. James Glasgow Martin, 39
Stockley Donelson, 25, m. Phila Ann Lawrence, 21
John Purnell Donelson, 1
Emily Tennessee Donelson, 23, m. Andrew Jackson Donelson[1]
Andrew Jackson Donelson, 4
Mary Rachel Donelson, 1

Mary Donelson m. *John Caffery*
Jane Caffery m. Ralph Eleazar Whitesides Earl, 42

William Donelson m. *Charity Dickinson*
Severn Donelson, 33
Martha H. Donelson, 21, m. **Robert Minns Burton**, 30
Andrew Jackson Donelson, 15
Elizabeth Hays Donelson, 11

Jane Donelson, 64, m. *Robert Hays*
Rachel Hays, 44, m. **Robert Butler**, 44
Andrew Jackson Butler, 2
Mary Lucinda Butler, infant
Stockley Donelson Hays, 42, m. Lydia Butler, 42
Sarah Jane Hays, 16
Richard Jackson Hickory Hays, 8
Martha Thompson Hays, 40, m. William Edward Butler, 40
Narcissa Hays, 35
Samuel Jackson Hays, 30, m. Frances Pinckney Middleton, 19
Andrew Jackson Hays, infant
Elizabeth Hays, 25, m. **Robert Johnstone Chester**, 37

Rachel Donelson m. **ANDREW JACKSON**, 63
Andrew Jackson Jr. (adopted), 22[2]

Samuel Donelson m. Mary Ann Michie Smith, 49
Andrew Jackson Donelson, 31, m. Emily Tennessee Donelson[1]
Daniel Smith Donelson, 29, m. Margaret Branch, 19

Severn Donelson m. *Elizabeth Rucker*
Rachel Donelson m. William Donelson[3]
John Donelson, 23
Andrew Jackson Jr.[2]
Thomas Jefferson Donelson, 22
Samuel Rucker Donelson, 20
Lucinda Rucker Donelson, 18, m. George Washington Martin, 38
Alexander Donelson, 14

Leven Donelson, 54

This listing is not complete. The marriages of Rachel Jackson's brothers and sisters produced more than fifty adult children and innumerable grandchildren. Only those named in Jackson's 1831 correspondence are shown here.

1. Emily Tennessee Donelson married her first cousin Andrew Jackson Donelson.

2. Andrew Jackson Jr., adopted in infancy by Andrew and Rachel Jackson, was the son of Severn Donelson and birth twin of Thomas Jefferson Donelson.

3. William Donelson's first wife was his cousin Rachel Donelson. He married Elizabeth Anderson after her death.

The Papers, 1831



PRINCIPAL CHARACTERS

The Cabinet

Secretary of State Martin Van Buren, followed by Edward Livingston
Secretary of the Treasury Samuel Delucenna Ingham, followed by Louis McLane
Secretary of War John Henry Eaton, followed by Lewis Cass
Secretary of the Navy John Branch, followed by Levi Woodbury
Attorney General John Macpherson Berrien, followed by Roger Brooke Taney
Postmaster General William Taylor Barry

In Washington

Vice President John Caldwell Calhoun
Francis Preston Blair, editor and publisher of the Washington *Globe*
Margaret O'Neale Timberlake Eaton, wife of John Henry Eaton
Duff Green, editor and publisher of the *United States' Telegraph*
Samuel S. Hamilton, Superintendent of Indian Affairs
Elijah Hayward, Commissioner of the General Land Office
Amos Kendall, Fourth Auditor of the Treasury
William Berkeley Lewis, Second Auditor of the Treasury
Nicholas Philip Trist, State Department clerk

Diplomats Abroad

Louis McLane, minister to Britain, followed by Martin Van Buren
William Cabell Rives, minister to France
John Randolph, minister to Russia
Anthony Butler, chargé d'affaires to Mexico

Family

Andrew Jackson Jr., Jackson's adopted son
Andrew Jackson Donelson, Jackson's nephew and private secretary, and his wife and cousin—
Emily Tennessee Donelson, Jackson's niece
Mary Ann Eastin, Emily Donelson's niece and companion
Samuel Jackson Hays and Stockley Donelson Hays, Jackson's nephews
Andrew Jackson Hutchings, Jackson's grandnephew and ward

Companions and Confidants

John Coffee, in north Alabama
Hardy Murfree Cryer, near the Hermitage
Ralph Eleazar Whitesides Earl, with Jackson
James Alexander Hamilton, in New York City
John Christmas McLemore, in Nashville
John Overton, in Nashville

January



To Mary Ann Eastin

[From the outset of his administration, Jackson's presidential Cabinet and Washington household had been torn by a division of opinion over the moral character and social acceptability of Margaret O'Neale Timberlake Eaton (1799–1879), the new wife of Jackson's Tennessee friend, biographer, and now Secretary of War, John Henry Eaton (1790–1856). Stories had circulated of Margaret's liaisons with Eaton and other men during the time of her previous marriage to Navy purser John Bowie Timberlake. Timberlake committed suicide at sea in April 1828, and Margaret married Eaton on January 1, 1829. Prominent Washingtonians ostracized the couple. Jackson believed Mrs. Eaton innocent, and he assembled a compilation of letters and affidavits to prove her the victim of gossip and slander.

In January 1830, three Cabinet members—Secretary of the Treasury Samuel Delucenna Ingham (1779–1860) of Pennsylvania, Secretary of the Navy John Branch (1782–1863) of North Carolina, and Attorney General John Macpherson Berrien (1781–1856) of Georgia—hosted large parties to which the Eatons were conspicuously not invited. Jackson met with the three, explaining that while he did not presume to dictate their private social relations, he regarded their ostentatious exclusion of the Eatons as an intolerable public reproach and insult to himself. An immediate Cabinet rupture was averted, but the rift continued. To Jackson's mortification, his own official family—his private secretary, Andrew Jackson Donelson (1799–1871), and Andrew's wife and first cousin, White House hostess Emily Tennessee Donelson (1807–1836)—also shunned Mrs. Eaton, refusing to visit or socialize with her outside the presidential household. Andrew and Emily were Jackson's nephew and niece, children of brothers of Jackson's late wife Rachel.

In the summer of 1830, Jackson, the Donelsons, and the Eatons were all in Tennessee. There the snubbing continued, and when Jackson and Donelson returned to Washington in September Emily remained behind, under admonition from Jackson not to come and resume her place at the White House until she would pledge to accept Mrs. Eaton. Refusing to yield, Donelson prepared to resign as Jackson's private secretary and

rejoin his wife in Tennessee, while Jackson began making inquiries for his replacement.

By late 1830, Jackson had come to view the Eaton imbroglio largely in political terms as an attack on himself, in which his nephew and niece had been duped into serving his enemies. Jackson fixed primary blame on his Vice President, John Caldwell Calhoun (1782–1850) of South Carolina. In letters to the Donelsons and other confidants, Jackson accused Calhoun of orchestrating opposition to his administration on multiple fronts, with the aim of supplanting him for the presidency in 1832.

*Mary Ann Eastin (1810–1847) was Emily Donelson's orphaned niece and her companion in both Washington and Tennessee. She had been the conduit for letters between Jackson and Emily regarding the Eaton affair. On December 5, 1830, she had written Jackson describing a family visit to her Coffee relatives in Florence, Alabama (*Jackson Papers, *8:648–50). John Coffee (1772–1833) had fought alongside Jackson in several military campaigns and was perhaps his closest friend. Coffee's wife, Mary Donelson Coffee (1793–1871), was Emily Donelson's sister and Mary Ann Eastin's aunt.]*

W. January 1rst. 1830

Dr Mary

This has been a busy day, hundreds greeting me, with "a happy new year, & many returns of the same," but Mary & Emily were not among the number. The croud having retired, and having lost 20 ounces of blood, for I am not well, I thought of your kind & affectionate letter, and seized the leisure moment to answer it. It was receeived on the 22nd. ultimo—when read, it brought fresh to my recollection, the heartrending scene I had experienced on that day two years gone by—a bereavement which has left for me no prospect of happiness this side the grave, and as long as my pulsation ~~beats~~ exists I cannot cease to mourn—such has been the constant croud & pressure of business that I had not a moments leisure until this night to reply to your kind letter.[1]

I am pleased to hear that you & Mary McLamore have been spending a few pleasant weeks with your Dear friends your aunt & uncle Coffee, & they with their amiable family are well—but with those dear relations worthy to be called *friends* your tender mind was coroded with the absence of one who used to be found in that society, but was not there—The only consolation left is, that we trust they are gone to happier climes than this, "where the wicked cease troubling, & the weary are at rest"—let us prepare to follow ~~them~~, and join them in the realms of bliss.[2]

I had the pleasure to receive your Aunt Emilys kind letter. It gave me, on one hand, much pleasure, on the other, pain—pleasure, that she, and her dear little ones, were blessed with health—on the other, pain, that we were seperated, the unpleasant circumstance that have led to it, and the existing state of things that forbade me, to say, hasten & unite with

us here.[3] My Dr Mary, I shall ever regret the time, nay that evil moment, when the gossips of this city obtained the ear of my Dr Emily & Andrew, caused them to throw aside my council, attend to that of strangers, and listen to slanders founded upon rumour that produced these unhappy results. ? How often did bring to view, "that a House divided against itself could not stand," and that those who had combined to coerce me to abandon my friend, because he might be in the way of some aspiring demagagues, or seperate my family from me, so soon as they had accomplished their object, would abandon them, & sacrafice me. Friendship is a precious jewel, and when we have a real friend, never ought to be parted from, for light or trivial causes; and in these days of corruption, where there are so many aspiring demagagues, real friendship is hard to find; ~~and~~ when found, ought to be cherished as the true sweetner of life, and as the poet expresses "kind parent of ease, and composer of strife.[4]

I assure you Mary I never did complain of you—yours was a course of profound discretion, & has made you many friends here.

This subject is a painful one to me—it is past—and only be thought of, as a buoy, to stear clear of the like again, the question how to restore harmony is one of great delicacy—nothing on my part shall be omitted to bring it about. But I see a great deal of the old leven here yet. If Mr Ingham & his family with Governor Branch would make the movement, at once it would be restored, but I cannot suggest this, their course, they have long knew, was injurious to the harmony of my cabinet as well as prejudicial to my administration, and if harmony is not restored, I must take a stand that will make it a unit, let the consequence be what it may, and however coroding to my feelings—but anough of this at present, I hope always for the best—therefore hope that all matters will be brought about that harmony can be restored here, and that you & Emily will return, & Emily again become the representative of my Dr departed wife in my Houshold.

Andrew informs me he has written you & I suppose has given you the news of this place—all I have time to say is, that the croud yesterday was great—all my friends with the exception of a few attended amonghst the rest, Genl Desha & Mr. Crockett, Mr Barton, Noble and the vice-president were absent.[5]

I have been interrupted, and my taper admonishes me it is late, must therefore

Photocopy of AL fragment, TMM (17-0120).

1. On December 22, 1828, AJ's wife Rachel Jackson (1767–1828) had died at the Hermitage, their plantation home outside Nashville.

2. Mary McLemore (b. 1816) was Mary Ann Eastin's first cousin and had accompanied her to the Coffees. Mary's father was Jackson's friend, Nashville businessman John Christmas McLemore (1790–1864). Mary's mother, Elizabeth Donelson McLemore (1796–1836), was the sister of Mary Ann Eastin's late mother Rachel, of John Coffee's wife Mary, and of Emily Donelson. The sisters' father, Rachel Jackson's brother John Donelson (1755–1830), had died April 21, 1830. AJ quoted Job 3:17.

3. Emily and AJ Donelson's children were Andrew Jackson Donelson (1826–1859) and Mary Rachel (later called Mary Emily) Donelson (1829–1905).

4. AJ quoted from "Friendship," a widely anthologized poem: "O Friendship! thou balm and rich sweetner of life, / Kind parent of ease, and composer of strife." AJ had invoked the Biblical admonition about a house divided (from Matthew 12:25 or Mark 3:25) in letters including one to Emily Donelson on November 28, 1830 (*Jackson Papers*, 8:638–40), to which Emily's letter mentioned here was probably a reply.

5. Robert Desha (1791–1849) and David Crockett (1786–1836) were Tennessee congressmen, and David Barton (1783–1837) and James Noble (1785–1831) were U.S. senators from Missouri and Indiana, respectively. AJ regarded at least the first three as political foes.

To Sarah Glen Davis Bland

January 2nd. 1831—

The President with his kind salutations to Mrs. Chancellor Bland, acknowledges to have received by the hand of his son, her very acceptable present, and receives it as a token of her great solicitude for his health, & particular regard.

The President requests the tender of his kind salutations to the Chancellor and her amiable daughter, with the joys of the season—and for herself, a tender of his best wishes for her health & happiness.

AN, MdHi (17-0133). Sarah Glen Davis Bland (c1768–1854) was the wife of Theodorick Bland (1776–1846), Chancellor of Maryland. Their daughter was Sarah Battaile Fitzhugh Bland (1808–1885). AJ's son was Andrew Jackson Jr. (1808–1865), born to Rachel Jackson's brother Severn Donelson and his wife Elizabeth and adopted in infancy by AJ and Rachel.

From Samuel Jackson Hays

[Samuel Jackson Hays (1800–1866) was Jackson's nephew, the son of Rachel Jackson's sister Jane Donelson Hays (1766–1834) and her late husband Robert Hays. On December 7, 1830, Jackson had sent Samuel the inaugural issue of a new Washington newspaper, The Globe, *which was intended to replace Duff Green's* United States' Telegraph *as the administration's editorial voice. Francis Preston Blair (1791–1876) of Kentucky was the editor. The first issue included a prospectus and the text of Jackson's second annual message to Congress, delivered on December 6. Jackson had asked Hays's opinion of the message and urged him and others to patronize the* Globe *(*Jackson Papers, *8:681–82).]*

Woodlawn Janry. 3d. 1831.

Dr. Uncle

Your kind favor of the 7th. Ult. enclosing your message, as published in the *Globe*, came to hand some mails since.

You are pleased to ask my opinion of your message I have to say that *I* cannot be expected to find fault with that, which your most inveterate political foes, have been *constrained* to approve. The implacable & unrelenting, yet, talented Pleasants has reluctantly pronounced it, a state paper of the highest merit. To this, your friends respond a cordial amen.[1]

As for my own part, I cannot conceive that, you could have been more happy, than you have been, upon the various topics ~~touched~~ embraced in the message. Your remarks are peculiarly felicitous upon the subject of the Indians—which subject the opposition persevere in misrepresenting.[2]

We are pleased with the prospectus of the Globe, such a paper was much wanted at the Metropolis. The Editor is fairly at issue with the U.S. Bank & all *nullifiers*. May success attend his efforts.

Your note to A. Huntsman Esq. flattered him much, He has been very active in procuring subscribers for the *Globe*. He wrote you by the last mail (as he showed me his letter) enclosing a number of subscribers.[3] He informs you, P. M. Miller has written a book, so it is said. In which he takes occasion to abuse Mr. Van Buren. It is supposed to be written for the meridian of N. York. A knowledge of his character, *neutralizes* all his efforts here.[4]

I have handed over to Mr. Huntsman the prospectus which you sent me. And he has promised to get at least one hundred subscribers.

You say, you would like to see Narcissa, Frances, your name-sake, & myself at Washington.[5] If the winter was not so far advanced & the means were convenient, it would afford us great pleasure to visit you. When we visit our Carolina friends we will endeavour to make our arrangements so as touch at Washington. When we will have an opportunity of presenting to you, your name-sake."

Mother & Narcissa unite with Frances & myself in prayers for your continued health & prosperity[.] As ever yours affcly.

Saml J. Hays

P.S. Please present my kind regards to Andrew Jr. & tell him I would be happy to hear from him

S. J. H.

ALS, DLC (38).

1. John Hampden Pleasants (1797–1846), editor of the anti-Jackson Richmond *Constitutional Whig,* had confessed in a December 11, 1830, editorial his "warmest admiration" for AJ's second annual message: "In lucid arrangement, vigor and condensation of thought, power and justness of reasoning, correctness of the general sentiment, and force and simplicity of language, it at least comes up to, if it does not excel, the most chaste and finished models of the class of composition to which it belongs."

2. AJ's second annual message touted his recent Choctaw and Chickasaw treaties as heralding the "happy consummation" of the government's long-settled and benevolent Indian removal policy. Shepherding the Indians to a refuge beyond the Mississippi, said AJ, would not only satisfy the just claims of the states and open new lands for development, but would preserve the Indians from the certain decay and decline that came from too close proximity to whites. It would afford the Indians freedom to live as they chose in the West

while allowing time to "cast off their savage habits and become an interesting, civilized, and Christian community" (Richardson, 2:519–23).

3. Adam Huntsman (1786–1849) was a state senator in Jackson, Tenn., to whom AJ had also sent his message as published in the *Globe*. That letter later prompted a controversy. On May 2, 1831, the anti-administration Washington *National Journal* accused AJ of demeaning his office and abusing his frank by soliciting subscriptions to the *Globe*. It cited, as proof, a report of a letter that AJ had written to an unnamed Tennessee state senator. Huntsman answered in the *Globe* of June 15. Branding the *Journal*'s charge a malicious falsehood, he identified himself as the recipient of AJ's letter and furnished a text of it which neither mentioned the *Globe* prospectus nor asked him to procure subscriptions (*Jackson Papers*, 8:682). Huntsman acknowledged recruiting subscribers for the *Globe*, but only on his own unprompted initiative. An accompanying *Globe* editorial decried the reckless dishonesty of AJ's critics. The *Journal* defended the accuracy of its account on June 30.

4. Pleasant Moorman Miller (1773–1849) was a former Tennessee congressman. He had been an early backer of AJ, but repudiated him in 1829 for breaking his pledge not to appoint members of Congress to the Cabinet. Martin Van Buren (1782–1862) of New York was AJ's secretary of state.

5. Narcissa Hays (b. 1795) was Samuel's sister. In November 1829, Samuel had married Frances Pinckney Middleton (1811–1865) of South Carolina. AJ's namesake was their son Andrew Jackson Hays (1830–1878), born in September 1830.

To John Rhea

*[In 1830 Jackson confronted Vice President Calhoun over events that had transpired twelve years before. Jackson had then been a U.S. major general commanding the Army's Southern Division with headquarters at Nashville, and Calhoun had been secretary of war in the Cabinet of President James Monroe (1758–1831). On December 26, 1817, Calhoun had ordered Jackson to assume direct command of troops on the southern frontier and suppress the Seminole Indians, who had been raiding into Alabama and Georgia from Florida, then a Spanish province. Calhoun's directive alluded to orders sent ten days previously to Jackson's predecessor in field command, General Edmund P. Gaines. Those orders, which Jackson had seen, authorized Gaines to pursue the Seminoles into Florida and attack them there "unless they should shelter themselves under a Spanish post. In the last event, you will immediately notify this department" (*Calhoun Papers, *2:20, 39–40).*

From March through May of 1818, Jackson campaigned through Florida, not only defeating the Seminoles but also assailing, capturing, and garrisoning Spanish bastions at St. Marks and Pensacola. In Washington in July, Monroe and his Cabinet deliberated whether to discipline or repudiate him but decided against it, though Calhoun and Monroe both wrote Jackson privately that in their opinion he had exceeded orders. Publicly the administration stood by Jackson against a hail of congressional and newspaper criticism; and Jackson claimed, then and later, that he had its full sanction for everything he did.

*At the time, Jackson attributed much of the public outcry to the "implacable hostility" of his then political arch-enemy, the "base unprincipled" William Harris Crawford (1772–1834) of Georgia, who was Monroe's secretary of the Treasury (*Jackson Papers, *4:247). However, in 1828 Crawford, no longer an active politician, divulged to Jackson's intermediaries James A. Hamilton and John Forsyth that Calhoun, not himself, had argued in the Cabinet for punishing Jackson. He confirmed this accusation in a letter to Forsyth of April 30, 1830, which Forsyth gave Jackson on May 12.*

*The next day, May 13, 1830, Jackson confronted Calhoun with Crawford's letter and demanded an explanation. Calhoun replied at length on May 29. He censured Crawford's violation of Cabinet confidence, charged him with malicious intent, and denied ever concealing from Jackson his own conviction that in seizing the Spanish posts Jackson had gone beyond orders. He acknowledged that in Cabinet conclave he had first favored an official inquiry into Jackson's conduct, but had been persuaded otherwise and had fully concurred in the final decision to back Jackson unreservedly (*Jackson Papers, *8:255–60, 305–21).*

*To this, Jackson replied on May 30: "I had too exalted an opinion of your honor and frankness to believe, for a moment, that you could be capable of such deception. . . . I had a right to believe that you were my sincere friend, and until now, never expected to have occasion to say of you, in the language of Cesar—*et tu Brute*. . . . Understanding you now, no further communication with you on this subject is necessary[.]" But the exchange continued into August, as Calhoun offered further protests and vindications while endeavoring to pry out from Jackson who had instigated reopening the controversy and why (*Jackson Papers, *8:321–22, 337–40, 352, 390–91, 433–34, 502–6).*

*Calhoun's letter of December 26, 1817, putting Jackson in command had crossed one from Jackson to Monroe, sent from Nashville on January 6, 1818. In it, Jackson applauded the previous order to Gaines for a Florida incursion against the Seminoles but criticized the prohibition on attacking the Spanish as likely to render the campaign ineffectual if not disastrous. Instead, said Jackson, the U.S. should seize and hold all of Florida "as an indemnity for the outrages of Spain upon the property of our citizens: . . . this can be done without implicating the Government; let it be signifyed to me through any channel, (say Mr. J. Rhea) that the possession of the Floridas would be desirable to the United States, & in sixty days it will be accomplished" (*Jackson Papers, *4:166–68). John Rhea (1753–1832) was then a Tennessee congressman.*

Monroe later noted on this letter that he was ill when it arrived and did not read it until after Jackson's campaign and the Cabinet deliberations had both concluded. However, Crawford, in his April 30, 1830, letter to Forsyth, claimed that Jackson's letter had indeed been brought before

the Cabinet. Crawford said that from the moment he saw the letter and learned that Monroe had not replied, he had argued that Jackson must have taken silence as tacit consent and should therefore be supported, while Calhoun had continued to press for punishment.

*Calhoun's May 29, 1830, defense to Jackson declared this account "entirely destitute of foundation" and bolstered the denial with testimony newly procured from Monroe himself and from another Cabinet member, attorney general William Wirt. Writing to Calhoun, Monroe recounted, as above, that when Jackson's letter arrived he had briefly shown it to Calhoun and Crawford, but, being ill, he had then laid it aside, forgot it, and did not read it himself until months later. It was never before the Cabinet and never discussed. Wirt said the letter was to him "a thing perfectly new, and of which I never heard before" (*Calhoun Papers, *11:164–65, 171–72).*

*Shown Calhoun's May 29 defense, Crawford wrote Calhoun a scathing letter on October 2, 1830, calling him "a degraded and disgraced man," to which Calhoun replied on October 30 saying that he would leave others to judge whether Crawford's "want of truth be owing to a decayed memory or some other cause" (*Calhoun Papers, *11:233–49).*

Down to this point, the dispute over Jackson's January 6, 1818, letter to Monroe was entirely about how it had been received in Washington. No one, including Jackson, had yet suggested that it had been answered.]

Washington janry 4th. 1831

My Dr Sir

you will no doubt recollect that in the fall of the year 1817 a confidential letter was written by me to Mr Monroe upon the subject of the violations of Spain, exciting the Indians in Florida to masacre our citizens & encouraging the smuggling of affricans into our territory &c &c &c; In which I observed that if the government had a wish to put down these violations of our rights &c &c; and would make it known to me confidentially, that it was their wishes, either by a direct communication or thro' a confidential friend, say, Mr John Rhea, their wishes, and instructions, should be carried into effect. you wrote me in reply, that Mr Monroe had shewn you my confidential letter, approved the ideas therein expressed and that I might expect shortly to receive ample orders, or instructions. I give the substance not having a copy of my letter to Mr. Munroe before me. In Janry 1819, you came to me from Mr Monroes to Mr Strothers Hotel in this city where I boarded, and asked me, if I had received such a letter from you, I promptly replied I had, and observed, surely you could not have forgotten it. you then requested me as your friend, & brother mason, to burn it when I went home. *I told you I would*, and when I reached home did, so, *burn it*—but marked on the margin of my letter Book, in which my confidential letter to Mr Monroe was recorded,

burned the answer of Mr John Rhea to this letter agreable to his request.[1] I always act on the defensive, but Mr Calhoun is now here, Mr Crawford and him have lately got into an angry controversy about this matter, Mr Crawford has stated that Mr Calhoun was the only individual in the Cabinet that moved my arrest, or punishment, and that this letter of mine to Mr Monroe was produced in the Cabinet. it is further hinted, that Mr Monroe says he never shew you this letter of mine, or told you any thing about it. Therefore it may become necessary for you, as well as myself, that I should be in possession of these facts, and particularly of your requesting me at Strothers Hotel in 1819 to burn this letter of yours when I got home. This fact may be important to me, and not less so to you, and as at your request this letter was burnt & destroyed, I ask of you now to state, that you had thus requested. I repeat that I mean to act upon the defensive, and I do not mean to use this matter, except in defence. I am Sir with great respect yr frind

Andrew Jackson

P.S. write me on the receipt of this

ALS, NcD (17-0196). Rhea replied in February (below).

1. John Strother (d. 1833) had operated the Mansion Hotel in Washington. AJ stayed there from January 23 to February 12, 1819, while the House of Representatives debated resolutions censuring his Seminole campaign. In AJ's papers is an undated copy of his January 6, 1818, letter to Monroe, written out and endorsed "a true copy" by AJ Jr. The copied text includes a marginal note: "Mr. J Rhea's letter in answer is burnt this 12th. of April 1818. A. J." (DLC-23).

From James Guild

Nashville Tennessee, Jany 4th 1831

Dear Sir

Agrable to your request I have copied Mrs Jacksons portrait the coppy meets the approbation of both your and Mrs Jacksons friends as far as I can learn which leads me to beleve; that it will meet yours; if so; the price for copying is twenty five Dollars, and in order to have it complete I purchased a locket which is twelve Dollars I have also taken the General himself (with the assistance of Mr Earls portrait) in his plain Citizen's dress as near as I could conceive his apearence, at the diner table, the day before he left Nashville it is acknowledged by Mr Mclemore Mr Hill and Parson hume together with Mr Steel,[1] and many other of your most intimate friends to be the best likeness; of General Jackson they have ever seen I would send it as a complement to the General, But as I fear it would not meet the approbation of his friends in Washington as it does in Nashville I have defered it, hoping that I shall, meet the General in Washington in the

course of a year, when I shall beg the privilege of taking it from real life[.] I am with much respect Your Obedient Servant

James Guild

ALS, MiDbEI (17-0193). Guild (1797–1841) was an itinerant artist. The copies he made were miniatures.

1. Ralph Eleazar Whitesides Earl (1788–1838) was a well-known artist and AJ's in-law relation and close companion. He often painted AJ. Harry Rufus Willie Hill (1797–1853) was a Nashville businessman, and William Hume (1770–1833) was a Presbyterian minister. Graves W. Steele (d. 1838) was AJ's overseer at the Hermitage.

From John Randolph

[In September 1829, Jackson appointed longtime Virginia congressman and senator John Randolph (1773–1833) minister to Russia. His primary charge was to negotiate two treaties, one concerning commerce and navigation and another concerning neutral and belligerent rights in wartime. Randolph sailed from Norfolk in June 1830 and reached St. Petersburg on August 10. On September 19 he left for London, explaining to Jackson that his health required it. Opposition papers severely censured his short stay in Russia and his reportedly outlandish behavior there. Jackson wrote Randolph in December 1830, offering assurances of his and Secretary of State Van Buren's continued confidence while hoping that Randolph's health would permit a return to St. Petersburg in the spring.]

London January 5—1831.

My dear Sir

Yesterday, I had the pleasure to receive your valued & most welcome letter of the 2d. of December. It more than compensates me for "*the implacable malice of my enemies*."[1] The storm of obloquy & calumny, which has been poured upon my defenceless head is—so far as I know—without precedent. It seems as if the assailants thought there was nothing too absurd, or preposterous, to be asserted of me. There are other besides publick reasons, which have made me particularly obnoxious to the Duumvirs, who lead the coalition forces; & I have no doubt that their caterers are well aware of the ~~tastes~~ appetites of their masters. "If what they allege (or any part of it) be true, then am I unfit for my country; if false, (& of general belief) then is that country unfit for me." But no! it is not my country that brings, or credits, these monstrous allegations of the creatures of C. & W.[2] But let me dismiss them & the subject, on which I have already wasted too many words—forever!

of mr. Van Buren's personal regard & good feeling towards me I have never entertained a doubt—on my part, I have cherished the kindest dispositions towards him, which have perhaps rendered me more sharp sighted to the difficulties of his position. My best wishes & regards attend him.

It gives me pleasure to inform you that my health has so far improved that I confidently look back to a return to St. Petersburgh as soon as the Baltic shall be open: unless indeed all hope of success in either of the objects of my mission shall be desperate. Events have been very untoward for us—The French Revolution—that of Belgium—the Cholera Morbus—but above all, the Polish insurrection.[3] I do not consider that my own ill health, or absence from Russia, have had any ill effect upon our negotiation. Before I left St. Petersburgh I had put the Imperial Ministry in full possession of all our views—& here, I am conveniently situated for communicating with them as well as with my own Government. I have found in Prince Lieven not only an accomplished gentleman, but one who has won upon my esteem. His deportment towards me is so frank & cordial (to all he is courteous) & so unequivocally indicative of good opinion on his part, that I am sorry he is not charged with the conclusion of the negotiation which I opened with him.[4]

I had read "the Message" in the Times newspaper a few minutes before I received the official Copy. It is unnecessary for me to use the privilege which you so generously & kindly accord—but I cannot refrain from expressing my admiration of the manly & lofty spirit in which it is conceived, as well as the general correctness (in my humble judgement) of it's views. There are points of dissent of which you are not unapprized: but anti Tariff as I am, & ever shall be, I cannot overlook the glaring absurdity of those who oppose themselves to that measure as "unconstitutional," while at the same time they defend the constitutionality of the Bank of the U. S.[5] They belong to that class who confound Tyranny with Usurpation—as if that made any difference to the victim—"for it is not perhaps so much by the assumption of unlawful powers, as by the unwise, or unwarrantible use of those which are most legal, that Governments oppose their true end & object." Who doubts the *constitutionality* of the Corn Laws, that are starving the English labourers? Are they therefore more bound to submit to starvation?[6]

Occupied as your time always is & especially during the sitting of Congress I feel as if I were indiscreetly intruding upon it. I cannot close this unreasonably long letter, however, without saying that it is not the least of my gratifications arising from the favourable change in my health, that it will enable me to comply with your wishes & to manifest my sense of your noble conduct towards me.

The manly straightforward course of Lord Althorp & Sir James Graham in the House of Commons has gained them, personally, the confidence of every man of Liberal principles in the Kingdom. But there is as general a distrust of the ministry in the other House—of the head especially. In short, it is plain to every observing man that Lord Grey will yield nothing that is not wrested from "His Majesty's Government" by a force that he cannot resist. What he grants he will give grudgingly & with an ill grace. To provide for his own family seems to be the first purpose of

his heart. To perpetuate abuse, so as to enable the aristocracy, of which he is the proudest upholder, to quarter itself upon the public the second. It has been said of Lord Grey that "he was too proud to be useful." A more haughty contemner of the plebeians cannot be found in the House of Peers—none greater existed in the Senate of Rome.[7]

You see, my dear Sir, the confidence I repose in you. With the highest possible degree of respect & regard believe most faithfully Your's

John Randolph of Roanoke

P.S. Mr. Reuben Harvey, son of Reuben Harvey our late consul at Cork, has applied to me through his friends to be appointed successor to his father. It was, I believe, on my representation that the Senate confirmed the late Mr. Harvey's nomination. His connexions are of the first respectability in Cork & Limerick—& I may add Dublin; Supporters of Mr Spring Rice & friends of Lord Lansdown. The grandfather of the present applicant was distinguished for his kindness to American prisoners carried into Cork during the war of Independence—for which he received an autograph letter of thanks from Genl. Washington.[8]

I had commenced a sort of report on the subject of Consuls, the result of my observations during former visits to Europe, as well as the present. It is a subject that demands attention.

This morning (Thursday January 6th.) we have the stern proclamation of the Emperour of Russia against the Poles.[9] Situated as I am, I have deemed it proper to abstain from the expression of any opinion even in private conversation upon this most interesting & momentous subject. Indeed, I have cautiously avoided all discussion upon the subject of European politics. If France shall not throw her Ægis over Poland, then the friends of mankind will have cause to regret that instead of "the son of the Regicide," the patriots had not set the little Duke of Bordeaux upon the throne with a regency less disposed to dally with the Great Powers than the head of the House of orleans.[10]

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr. J Randolph of Roanoke recd 27th Febry 1831—

ALS, DLC (38).

1. AJ had written Randolph on December 3 (not 2), 1830: "Thoroughly convinced that the interests committed to us by the people, will never be intentionally prejudiced in your hands, you shall not as far as I can avoid it, suffer by the implacable malice of your enemies" (*Jackson Papers*, 8:647–48). AJ had personally interceded to counter public criticisms of Randolph's conduct in Russia (*Jackson Papers*, 8:617–18, 624).

2. C. and W. were probably opposition leaders Henry Clay of Kentucky (1777–1852) and Senator Daniel Webster (1782–1852) of Massachusetts. Randolph had been a virulent critic of the preceding administration of John Quincy Adams (1767–1848) and especially of Clay, its secretary of state. "Coalition" was a derisive Jacksonian term for the Adams and

Clay men, alluding to the supposed "corrupt bargain" that had made Adams president and Clay secretary of state in 1825.

3. Political upheaval swept across Europe in 1830. In France, an uprising in July led to the ouster of Bourbon King Charles X and the installation in August of Louis Philippe (1773–1850), Duke of Orléans, as king in a new constitutional monarchy. Southern provinces of the Netherlands rebelled soon after and declared independence in October, leading to creation of the Kingdom of Belgium. A Polish insurrection against Russian rule, sparked by young officers in Warsaw and known as the "Cadet Revolution," began in November and continued into 1831. A cholera pandemic originating in India reached Russia in 1830 and the U.S. in 1832.

4. Christopher Andreievitch Lieven (1774–1839) was Russia's ambassador to Britain and had been interim foreign minister when Randolph was in St. Petersburg.

5. *The Times* of London printed AJ's second annual message on January 4. In it AJ upheld the constitutionality of protective tariffs (Richardson, 2:523). AJ had anticipated Randolph's dissent from parts of the message, saying in his December letter that "if you find in it, more to approve than to question, it is perhaps, as much as I have a right to expect." Randolph's remark on "glaring absurdity" probably referred to South Carolina nullifiers, whose support of the Bank of the United States he had criticized to AJ in 1830 (*Jackson Papers*, 8:492–94).

6. Randolph quoted Edmund Burke's 1792 "Speech on the Petition of the Unitarians." The Corn Laws were British taxes on imported grain. First imposed in 1815, they were widely decried for raising food prices and curtailing supplies.

7. Prime Minister Charles Grey (1764–1845), Earl Grey, headed a Whig government formed in 1830 following the fall of the Tory ministry of the Duke of Wellington. John Charles Spencer (1782–1845), Viscount Althorp, was Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Sir James Graham (1792–1861) was First Lord of the Admiralty. Spencer and Graham sat in the Commons, Grey in the Lords.

8. AJ nominated Reuben Harvey (1789–1866) to be U.S. consul at Cork on February 14, 1831. His father, also Reuben Harvey (1770–1830), was appointed to the same post by President Adams; the Senate had received his nomination on March 3, 1827, and confirmed it without a roll call the same day. George Washington (1732–1799), then Army commander in chief, had written Harvey's grandfather, Reuben Harvey (1734–1808), twice in 1783, first on June 23 thanking him personally and then on August 10 enclosing a resolution of thanks from Congress for Harvey's exertions to relieve distress among American prisoners of war in Ireland (John C. Fitzpatrick, ed., *The Writings of George Washington* [Washington, 1931–1944], 27:28, 94). Thomas Spring Rice (1790–1866), a member of Parliament from Limerick, was Secretary to the Treasury in the Grey government. Henry Petty-Fitzmaurice (1780–1863), Marquess of Lansdowne, was Lord President of the Council.

9. On January 6, the London *Times* printed a decree against the Polish insurrection issued by Emperor Nicholas I (1796–1855) of Russia on December 17, 1830. It directed the movement of troops and threatened punishment of all rebel "traitors of their country" who did not lay down arms and submit to authority.

10. King Louis Philippe's father, Louis Philippe Joseph d'Orléans (1747–1793), had supported the French Revolution and voted in the National Convention to execute King Louis XVI. Forced to abdicate in 1830, Charles X had attempted to pass the throne to his nine-year-old grandson, Henri Charles Ferdinand Marie Dieudonné d'Artois (1820–1883), Duke of Bordeaux, rather than to Louis Philippe.

From Arthur Peronneau Hayne

Duplicate
Private.

Gibraltar 7th. January 1831.

Dear General:

I did myself the pleasure to write you a few weeks after my arrival at Gibraltar, and hope ere this my letter has been received. I have now taken up my pen to write you a full account of my actual situation at Gibraltar. I set a proper value on your friendship, and I have thought it due to that friendship, to address you on the present occasion.

For some time, I have been engaged in an examination of the course of trade at Gibraltar, and after mature reflection, have concluded *not to embark in business*. The truth is all business, *particularly American*, is at an end at Gibraltar—and I cannot under these circumstances bring myself to believe, that it would be profitable either to myself, or those friends who might patronize me. I should hazard much by embarking in business, *without even the chance of profit*. Your kind and friendly suggestion, in relation to my having a store for the supply of the Navy, at a fair price, *I have well considered*—but I do not conceive I could with propriety adopt the plan, as the Navy Regulations *prohibit* such a course of procedure.[1]

It has been with the greatest difficulty since my arrival at Gibraltar, that I have been able to discharge the duties of my new Office, at all to my satisfaction. For the last four months, I have made use of every exertion to raise money by disposing of Bills on the Navy Department—and the result has been, I have succeeded in raising the paltry sum of $10,000. The Government funds in the hands of Mess. Baring, Brothers &Co. are just exhausted—and the only, but at the same time unpleasant alternative left me, is to anticipate the arrival of funds in London—and as the wants of the Squadron require to draw on Mess. Baring, Brothers &Co., presuming that my Bills will be duly honored.[2] This mode of transacting business is most annoying to me, and contrary as you well know to all my former habits. Another difficulty arises from the fact, that the Commanding Officer of the Squadron, in his Requisitions requires that the funds should be furnished in *Spanish pillared dollars*.[3] Now as Spanish Gold (Doubloons) is the current money at Gibraltar—and Spanish pillared Dollars being altogether an article of Commerce—and there being comparatively speaking no Commerce remaining at Gibraltar—hence arises the almost insuperable difficulty of obtaining on any thing like fair terms Spanish pillard dollars. The Convulsed state of Europe, and the almost total *annihilation* of commerce every where, has no doubt had a great deal to do in producing the present state of things. I will bring to your view a single fact, by way of illustration, which has come under my own ~~view~~ observation—to wit: some weeks ago when the news of the supposed London Mob reached Gibraltar, the Official authority here for a short

time, could not on any terms dispose of bills on the English Government.[4] Notwithstanding the difficulties I have had to encounter, still I have the satisfaction to know, that I have already saved the Government more than my Salary would amount to for a year, by the manner in which the monied concerns of the Squadron have been managed—and that no one but an Agent on the Spot, without great loss the Government, could have got along at all.

After a careful examination of the subject, taking all circumstances into consideration, I am of the opinion, that the monied concerns of the Squadron in the Mediterranean, can be better managed at Marseilles than at Gibraltar. It is more than probable, I shall in Spring change my place of residence to Marseilles. The latter place is only *200 miles* from Mahon, *the Rendezvous of our Squadron*, while Gibraltar is upwards of 500 miles distant—and the bay of the latter place is considered at all times, but particularly in Winter, as being unsafe. Comre. Biddle and myself have been engaged for some time in making the necessary enquiries preparatory to such a change.[5]

I will add one word more in relation to the duties of my Office. *All the funds necessary for the support of the Squadron should be placed in the hands of Messrs Baring, Brothers &Co. in London—and additional power should be given the Agent to draw on the Navy Department to be used when it can be done advantageously to the Government*. I have given my views at large to the Secretary of Navy on this subject—and will therefore on the present occasion add nothing more.[6]

It is with regret, I inform you, I cannot support, even my very small family, on my present Salary of $5000. I am obliged to pay my Clerk including his board $1000. besides a considerable amount in addition for *Porterage* in *collecting silver*, which I have to do in the best way I can in small amounts of from $50 to a $100—at a time—to which I might add *Stationary* and many other small items. To give you some idea of my expenses, it is only necessary to state a few items. House & Office Rent $800. Clerk $1000. Hire of Servants 5 in number $500. 3 Horses $500—these few items amount to $2,800—leaving only $2200 to cover all other expenses. I see no company, and observe the most exact economy, as I am determined not to involve myself. It is true whenever any of our public armed Vessels are at Gibraltar, *in an unostentatious way the hospitalities of my house are open to my Countrymen*. It cost me $2,000—out of my private funds, to place my family at Gibraltar—and the contemplated movement to Marseilles in Spring—and breaking up at Gibraltar like all removals must involve additional expense. I know full well, that the Office, which you have done me the favor to confide to my care, is one of great monied responsibility—and in the hands of a dishonest Agent, a few years only would suffice for him to realise a fortune—and Gibraltar of all places in the whole world is the best suited for a dishonest Agent—for I can truly say, ~~it~~ the society is composed almost exclusively of Sharpers and

Smugglers. I am sure, all circumstances duly considered, you will think it only reasonable, that I should be allowed a decent support—and any thing short of $6,000 will be insufficient.

Mrs. Hayne, and our daughter, beg to be remembered affectionately to you, and to all under your hospitable roof.[7] I remain dear General, your faithful & affectionate friend.

A. P. Hayne

ALS, DLC (38). Hayne (c1788–1867), a former Army colonel, had served with AJ at New Orleans and was later his inspector general. AJ had appointed him navy agent at Gibraltar in 1830. He was the brother of Senator Robert Y. Hayne of South Carolina.

1. Urging Hayne to accept the Gibraltar navy agency, AJ had told Robert Y. Hayne on April 26, 1830, that the post was worth $7,000 a year, and should he "embark a commission business, four years would ensure him an ample fortune" (*Jackson Papers*, 8:207). Hayne's June 15, 1830, instructions from Navy secretary Branch limited his annual official compensation to $5,000, "which it is to be distinctly understood will be in full of all allowances and emoluments of every kind and discription whatever" (DNA-RG 45, M441-2).

2. The banking firm of Baring Brothers & Co. was the U.S. government's financial agent in London.

3. "Pillar dollars" were Spanish silver coins minted in the Americas, which bore on one side an image of the mythical Pillars of Hercules standing astride the strait of Gibraltar. Captain James Biddle (1783–1848) commanded the Navy's Mediterranean squadron.

4. Street disturbances in London attending the fall of the Wellington ministry in November 1830 were reported as portents of an insurrectionary mob.

5. Hayne's instructions permitted relocating his agency if the public interest required it.

6. Branch's June 15, 1830, instructions to Hayne authorized him to draw up to $50,000 per quarter for expenses of the Mediterranean squadron from a $200,000 annual credit established with Barings. For sums beyond that, or at any time he could do so more cheaply, Hayne was to issue drafts directly upon the Navy Department. Hayne had written Branch on September 20, 1830, complaining of the expense and difficulty of getting drafts on the U.S. accepted at Gibraltar. He recommended that the government instead place funds in London sufficient to cover all the squadron's needs (DNA-RG 45, M124-125).

7. Hayne's wife was Elizabeth Laura Alston Hayne (1799–1867). His daughter from a previous marriage was Frances Duncan Hayne (b. c1819).

From Big Kettle, Seneca White, and Thomson S. Harris

Washington City. 11 Janry. 1831.

To the President.

We have the honor to say a word to the Chief Magistrate of these United States. We have come as delegates from the Seneca Nation, vested with a legal power to make an inquiry concerning our annuity. We wish to make known to our Father that our chiefs did not give or grant authority to us to take a part to the Green Bay question.[1] They have concurringly rejected this sort of policy. They have made expressed and decisive determination not to remove from their land to another country; believing as they do that their great Father President is constitutionally bound to afford

them a protection, according to the letter of our treaties; these treaties were made with much deliberation, ratified by the President Washington, with the consent of the Senate of the United States.[2] These treaties become public laws of the land. these public laws now stand, unrepealed, no state has a right to abrogate and repeal these laws, unless or untill both contracting parties give consent, or in the cases of violation of a treaty. Rome herself went to the School of despot, there she learned to give a "cunning interpretations and breaking treaties."[3] We presume such institution as this cannot exist within our Fathers dominion because he possesses a great knowledge and enlarged understanding, that he will arrest the proceeding of injustice and oppression.

Big Keggle his mark
Seneca White his mark
Thomson S. Harris

DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-808). Copy, DNA-RG 46 (17-0231). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, p. 390 (Serial 245). Seneca chiefs Big Kettle (c1784–1839), Seneca White (b. c1776), and Thomson S. Harris (d. 1846) resided on the Buffalo Creek Seneca reservation near Buffalo, N.Y.

1. Other Indian delegations in Washington at this time included Ohio Senecas seeking to remove westward, and Menominees and "New York Indians" contesting a settlement proposed by a presidential commission at Green Bay in September 1830 of their dispute over lands in present Wisconsin.

2. Early treaties with the Senecas secured their domain in New York state and established a trust fund of $100,000 held by the president, from which they were paid a yearly annuity. Invested originally in stock of the first Bank of the United States and later in 6% government bonds, the fund for some time produced at least $6,000 annually; but by 1829 the retirement of the bonds and reinvestment of the fund in lower-paying securities had reduced its yield to $3,385.60. The Adams administration had kept the annuity at $6,000 by drawing on general funds, but Jackson stopped this practice as unsanctioned by law and referred the issue to Congress (*Jackson Papers*, 7:193–94, 621–23). In 1830 the Senecas refused the reduced annuity and sought redress from Congress (*Jackson Papers*, 8:40–41, 461–62). A bill to fix the annuity at $6,000 failed in 1830, but an Act of February 19, 1831, set the annuity permanently at $6,000 and appropriated an extra $2,614.40 to make up the deficiency for 1830.

3. A paraphrase from "Of the foundation and History of the Law of Nations," Lecture I in James Kent's *Commentaries on American Law* (1826): "with what little attention *they* [the Romans] were accustomed to listen to the voice of justice and humanity, appears but too plainly from their haughty triumphs, their cunning interpretation of treaties, their continual violation of justice, their cruel rules of war, and the whole series of their wonderful successes, in the steady progress of the conquest of the world."

To John Henry Eaton

Janry. 12th. 1831—

My Dr. Sir,

I enclose for your examination a letter from Col. R. Butler formerly of the army of the U. States—with a Brevet commission which he returns, on the ground that his lineal rank at the time the Brevet was given was that

of Lt. Colo. & not that of Major, and the Brevet degrades instead of exalting him. The Register will shew his grade & the adjutant Genl Jones, can give information on this subject—Col. Butler was adjutant General for the Southern Division, when Brevetted.[1] I cannot say if any thing, what can be done now for him. Therefore bring it to your notice for enquiry & report. yours

Andrew Jackson

ALS, DNA-RG 107 (M222-30). Robert Butler (1786–1860) had served as AJ's adjutant general from 1814 to 1821 and was now surveyor of public lands in Florida. He had married Rachel Hays, niece of Rachel Jackson and sister of Samuel Jackson Hays. In 1815 Butler, then a commissioned Army major, had been breveted lieutenant colonel for gallant conduct at New Orleans. On November 28, 1830, Butler wrote AJ returning the brevet commission and asking its revocation, on ground that it degraded him from the brevet full colonelcy that already attached to his office as adjutant general (DNA-RG 107, M222-27). On December 4, 1835, Butler again wrote AJ complaining that no action had been taken on his request (DLC-47); and on March 3, 1837, his last day in office, AJ officially ordered Butler's 1815 brevet commission cancelled, regretting that it was too late to repair the injustice by commissioning him a brevet full colonel (DNA-RG 94, 33-1030).

1. Roger Jones (1789–1852) was Adjutant General of the Army.

From George Washington Campbell

Nashville 14th. Jany. 1831.

Dear Sir,

I have hitherto declined writing to you on the ground alone that your public duties must occupy your time so constantly as to leave but little to bestow on private correspondence. The press of business, however, usually occasioned by the meeting of Congress in the executive Department, having, it is presumed, in some degree, subsided, I have ventured to occupy a few moments of your time in perusing this brief communication; the principal object of which is to afford myself the pleasure of acknowledging, the receipt of the Executive Message to Congress, under your frank; & of expressing, after deliberately perusing it, my entire approbation, of the principles, in general, which it maintains. It is, in my opinion, a very able State paper; and is so considered by all the friends of the administration; and also by the better informed & more candid of the opposition; so far as has come to my knowledge. The grounds, it assumes, & so ably maintains by clear, sound & strong arguments, (which would seem unanswerable), in regard to the Tariff, & Internal improvements, are those occupied by the old, sound, democratic, republican party ever since they had the direction of public affairs; and are, it is most confidently believed, the only ones sanctioned, & which can be fairly sustained, by the constitution. Any apparent deviations from them, during that period, were produced by special or casual circumstances, which ought not to affect the general principles then professed; and frequently by a temporary difference of opinion

in some of the members of that party, who uniting with the opposition, or Federal party, constituted, on such insulated occasions, a majority; but were never adopted, or approved, by the substantial, sound portion of the Republican party. I speak with some confidence on those points, having had a pretty fair opportunity of knowing the measures that were adopted, in regard to them, & the means by which they were brought about.[1]

The view taken of Indian affairs seems also to rest on very strong grounds, and will there is little doubt, be supported by the better informed, throughout the nation; who are not enlisted in the opposition party to oppose every measure proposed by the administration. Indeed, the general views, taken in the message, of those important subjects are calculated, in my opinion, to have considerable effect on the public mind in different parts of the union; as explaining in a very clear manner the real grounds upon which the measures recommended by the Executive rest; & thereby refuting, many of the most plausible objections taken to them in the opposition prints.

In regard to the suggestions in the message on the subject of a national Bank, or an Institution to manage the Treasury concerns, I would take the liberty to remark, that the plan proposed as a substitute for the present United States Bank is a new one, not hitherto much investigated by the public; & whose merits it would be difficult to estimate without knowing the details. I would, however, venture to suggest, for your consideration, whether during the interesting crisis, which seems likely, soon to exist in the political affairs of the nation, by the violent efforts already manifested on the part of the opposition in regard to the next presidential election; the measure be of sufficient importance to deserve being so pressed by the friends of the administration as to produce any division, however small, among the members of the real republican party; or occasion even the less zealous to forsake it, and join their oponents. For it is not to be concealed, that there are in all political parties, some, who though well disposed, are more or less, lukewarm, and may require some indulgence, especially where pecuniary interests may be at stake, to prevent them from changing their position. I was not, myself, originally an advocate for a United States Bank; and entertained strong doubts of its original constitutionality. But one having been so long sanctioned by the public opinion of the nation, under the administration of the Republican, as well as the Federal party, I brought myself to vote for the present one, having become convinced, by some experience, that the pecuniary concerns of the nation could not be successfully managed without the aid of an institution, whose operations could be co-extensive with the limits of the union; and over which the general government had some control. I feel assured, Sir, you will consider these observations, as they are intended, as merely suggesting the views I entertain, after some reflection, on the subject, and submitted, from the best motives for your own eye, & consideration alone.[2]

The great & leading doctrines, founded on constitutional principles, contained in the message, will, it is confidently hoped, rally around them, all those firmly attached to the Republican party,—the real friends of the liberty of the people, and of a sound, & not a latitudenarian construction of the provisions of the constitution. It seems now pretty evident, should Mr. Clay, be seriously held up as a candidate, at the next presidential election, he must derive his principal support from the survivors of the old Federal party; who formerly, for many years, as was generally understood, looked upon him, as a mere *declaiming demagogue*, destitute of solid talents, and in whose moral principles they had no confidence, and the greater part of them, especially the better informed, no doubt, still entertain the same opinion in regard to him. Yet they may, though reluctantly, support him: not from any good will towards him, or confidence in him, but in order to brake down, if possible, the present administration party; and bring over to themselves, if practicable such of the latter as are most zealously attached to, & inlisted in favour of the Tariff, in its most exceptionable shape, (misnamed the American System) and *Internal* improvements.[3] Should Mr. Clay, however, come out as a candidate, openly under Federal auspices & colours, it is scarcely possible to avoid the conclusion, that it will ultimately blast his political prospects for ever. Neither party would have confidence in him. The materials which would compose the party that could be formed, sufficient to afford him even a respectable support, must be too discordant ever to cordially unite. It is really believed that the very name of *Federal support*, would paralize his interest among sound Republicans. A violent effort, will, however, from present appearances, probably be made in his favour; and, in my view, the result of such a contest, may prove more important, to the great & vital interests of the nation, than that of any previous one of the kind, since the adoption of our present constitution. For, should, contrary to all present expectations, the opposition succeed, in combining temporarily, a sufficient mass of discordant materials to enable them to prevail in the next election, the Republican party, would, as such, be, for a time at least, prostrated. And what calculations could be made on the measures, that a government consisting of such heterogenious parts, & guided by such a head, would adopt? It is therefore, safest, & indeed the duty of the friends of the present administration, & of the principles by virtue of which it came into power, to use every proper means & exertion to guard against the occurrence of such an event.

As to the shew of opposition in this quarter, it is confined to a few disaffected individuals, & of no importance. How far the inordinate zeal for protecting domestic manufactures to an unreasonable extent, & for making *Internal* improvements at the expense of the national treasury, may operate on the political views of the people of Kentucky & Ohio, is not so easily determined. These seem to be the States to which particular

attention should be paid by the friends & supporters of the present order of things.

I have been led, in the foregoing remarks, much farther than I, originally, intended; and have, I fear, trespassed too long on your precious time. I will therefore conclude, by expressing my best wishes, that your health may long be continued for the benefit of your country, as well as for your own happiness; and presenting you Mrs. C.'s friendly recollections & best respects, I request you to accept, assurances of the very high regards, and distinguished consideration, With which, I have the honour, To be, Sir, Your most obedt.

G. W. Campbell

P.S. I was favored, under your frank, with the first no. of the Globe, just established at Washington, & a subscription paper for the same. I think it promises to be an ably conducted & useful paper. I have subscribed for it & a number of others have also become subscribers to it here; and it will, it is believed, be well patronized in this quarter; on the ground, particularly, that it is considered sincere, in its professions to support the present administration, & the principles on which it came into power.

Jany. 15th. The ground is now covered here with snow—which fell last night a snow fell last Sunday, which covered the ground, being from 2 to 3 inches deep—and continued, in part, until the snow fell again last night—about the 22 & 23 Decbr. we had the coldest weather, experienced here for a number of years—The mercury stood in Farrenheit's Thermometer as low as zero—

[Endorsed by AJ:] Judge Campble of Nashville—to be answered—A. J.

ALS, DLC (38). Campbell (1769–1848) had been a Tennessee congressman and senator between 1803 and 1818. In 1814 he was briefly secretary of the Treasury. His wife was Harriet Stoddert Campbell (1789–1849).

1. AJ's second annual message in December 1830 defended the constitutionality of protective tariffs on imports but urged an amelioration of duties in the interest of conciliation. It also censured congressional appropriations for transportation projects of doubtful national importance and proposed distributing surplus federal revenues directly to the states as a more equitable and less divisive alternative (Richardson, 2:523–25, 508–17).

2. AJ's first annual message in December 1829 had announced strong reservations about rechartering the second Bank of the United States (BUS) and proposed instead an institution "founded upon the credit of the Government and its revenues" (Richardson, 2:462). His second message in December 1830 reiterated the "dangers" of the present Bank and suggested replacing it with a bank organized "as a branch of the Treasury Department" without stock or the power to make loans, issue notes, or hold property (Richardson, 2:528–29). As a Tennessee senator, Campbell had voted in 1816 for the bill chartering the second BUS.

3. In 1824 Henry Clay, then speaker of the House of Representatives, had given the name "American System" to his program of fostering national economic development through protective tariffs and federally funded transportation improvements.

From Auguste Genevieve Valentin Davezac

[The second article of the 1783 Treaty of Paris ending the Revolutionary War delineated a boundary between British Canada and the United States. However, a combination of vague language and a flawed map made it impossible to translate the treaty's wording into a line on the ground acceptable to both sides. One perplexing passage stipulated a route in the Northeast following the St. Croix River to its source and then due north to the "Highlands" separating the Atlantic and St. Lawrence River drainages. It proved unclear which river was meant by the St. Croix and, after that was later resolved, which of several divides were the "Highlands" of the treaty. At stake were about twelve thousand square miles of sparsely inhabited land lying between New Brunswick and Maine.

After protracted negotiation, in 1827 the U.S. and Britain signed a convention referring this and two other unresolved boundary issues to a friendly sovereign for "final and conclusive" arbitration. King William I (1772–1843) of the Netherlands was chosen as arbiter, and in 1829 Jackson appointed William Pitt Preble (1783–1857) of Maine as minister to the Netherlands to present the American position and Auguste Genevieve Valentin Davezac (1780–1851) as his secretary of legation. Davezac was a New Orleans lawyer and brother-in-law of Louisiana senator Edward Livingston. He had served as Jackson's volunteer aide and judge advocate in the New Orleans campaign.

Preble and British ambassador Charles Bagot (1781–1843) presented their cases in 1830, and on January 10, 1831, William I issued his award. Rather than choose either side's claim on the location of the highlands, he drew a compromise line between the two. His line gave the U.S. nearly two-thirds of the disputed region, but acceptance would require Maine to surrender territory over which it had adamantly claimed sovereignty. Preble tendered a formal protest against the award on January 12, pointing out that in drawing a new line of his own William I had exceeded his authority as arbiter (DNA-RG 59, M42-13). Preble wrote Jackson on January 17 (below). The U.S. ultimately refused the award, and the boundary was finally settled by the Webster-Ashburton Treaty of 1842.]

(Private)

The Hague January the 15th. 1831.

My Venerable Friend,

My last letters had informed you of the g[l]oomy anticipations I had formed as to the probable result of the arbitriment, deferred to the King of the Netherlands, by the late administration. On the 10th. Inst:, the King, with all usual Ceremonies, delivered to the Ambassador from England and to the Minister of the United States, two separate Documents, each containing the award rendered by him as Arbiter. The three questions have been determined adversely to the claims of the United States;

tho', fortunately, the most important question, that which relates to the Boundary, between the State of Maine and New-Brunswick, has been decided, in a manner that render the award, on that point, of no effect as regards the United States. Instead of determining which of the two ridges of high lands, adversely claimed as the "Highlands" of the Treaty, were "The Highlands which separate the rivers that fall into the St. Lawrence from those which empty themselves into the Atlantic Ocean, the King has advised the High parties interested, "*that it would be suitable* (qu'il serait convenable) I translate litteraly, to adopt an other boundary, which neither of the contending parties claimed, as being the line intended to be defined by the Treaty.[1] Mr. Preble, aware of the embarrassment into which a decision against the United States, would have placed the administration, if given in accordance with the points submitted, could not but be pleased, that the arbiter, by determining out of the letter of the powers delegated to him, had replaced the United States, precisely where they stood previous to the signing of the convention, that is to say, in the plenitude of their rights, and no longer under the oligation of abiding by the decision of a foreign ~~Sovereign~~ Monarch, in regard to a question relating to the Tirritorial limits of an independent Sovereign State: Acting in pursuence of this view of the subject, and in perfect harmony with my own impressions on the subject, he hastened, as soon as the Royal Award had been perused, to Protest Solemnly, in an official note directed to His Majesty Minister for foreign affairs, against a decision, in which the King of the Netherlands, in his solicitude to preserve peace between the High parties interested, had thought proper, not, as provided by the Arbitral Convention, to determine between the adverse Claims of the contending parties, but to substitute, to the stipulations of the Treaty, other provisions, not enterred into by the United States; and which the American Government, had not delegated to him the power of establishing.

I owe to Mr. Preble the Justice to say, that placed, at this Court, in circumstances of great difficulty, he has conducted this negotiation, (inauspicious at first from the unfortunate choice of the arbiter, and made more complicated, while pending, by events as important as they were unexpected,) with dignity, mildness, and firmness, and with a fixity of purpose the concomitant of a perfect knowledge of the subject left to his agency. It is true, Nevertheless, that he has not succeeded; but it is my decided opinion, that for owing to causes, which I have fully explained to Mr Van Buren in a confidential letter, which he will no doubt communicate, no other man could, at this moment, have succeeded.[2]

The English, seem to feel, and they do act as they did after the Bold attack we made on their Lines, on the memorable night of the 23d of this very month—they remain in possession of some of the disputed ground: but they are uneasy, as regard our future operations.[3] In a conversation, which I had with Sir H. Douglas, he asked me, whether the award of the King, *such as it was*, might not become the basis of a Treaty, which might

be made, such, as not to be displeasing to the American people?[4] My answer was, as it ought to be, having no power to hold official language, Vague, and intended only to convey the Idea, that the point involved was not, as they seemed desirous of making it understood here, one of Local importance to the state of Maine only, and uninteresting to the rest of the union, but a question, the determination of which, would excite the deepest solicitude in the whole nation.

England, in the present deplorable state of her finances, and with Ireland ready to burst forth in open insurrection, is not in a situation to speak in a High Tone. The secret of her relative weakness, revealled during the contest on the *[. . .]*, is now well known to France, and to Russia. I need say no more on this subject; It is my duty to communicate facts only. The fate of the union is in safe keeping.

here I would close this letter, in which the Habit of unreserved communications with my Old Commander, has already led me to tresspas on time claimed by High duties, but that the very date of this letter, admonishes me, that another year has just been added to that at which our friendship (permit me the expression) commenced, under circumstances of such exciting nature as never to be efaced from memory; and brings to my remembrance ~~the expression of~~ to express here the ardent wishes I formed, on the first day of the ~~coming~~ commencing year, that your future life ~~may~~ might be one of continued glory and Happiness; and that, after having, for an other Term, presided over the destinies of a great people, you may, in the pleasing occupations of rural life, and in the circle of faithful friends, long enjoy yourself that felicity, which you have endeavoured to secure to the nation, by proclaiming anew the great principles, of Democratic institutions, and State Sovereignty. will you receive them with kindness, and offer to your niece and nephew and to Major Lewis; the assurances of my earnest solicitude for their wellfare.[5] I have the Honor to be, my venerable friend Your most Humble & Obt. Svt.

Auguste Davezac

[Endorsed by Van Buren:] Major Davezac private letter to the President—

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (17-0260).

1. William I's phrase was "'il conviendra d'adopter" (*Treaties*, 3:367).

2. Davezac wrote to Van Buren this same day, January 15, saying that William I was utterly dependent upon Britain for its favorable disposition to him over Belgium and was thus eager to satisfy British wishes in the arbitration (Van Buren Papers, DLC).

3. On December 23, 1814, Jackson had attacked newly landed British troops below New Orleans, surprising them and forcing a halt to their advance.

4. Howard Douglas (1776–1861), lieutenant-governor of New Brunswick, was at the Hague to advise the British delegation.

5. William Berkeley Lewis (1784–1866) was the second auditor of the Treasury and also AJ's political manager, residing with him at the White House.

From Martin Van Buren

Janry. 15 1830

My dear Sir

I thank you kindly for the perusal of Judge Overtons very interesting letter. It has afforded me a richer intellectual repast than I have for a long time enjoyed, & I have no hesitation in saying, that, I have never read a production of the kind, containing so many deep, profitable & searching truths. The marked partiality which you have always evinced for him was sufficient to excite my respect & esteem, but I owe it to candour to say, that the patriotic and profoundly intelligent views, upon public questions of intense interest, which it exhibits, have greatly encreased my admiration of his character. What has hitherto mainly rested upon the favourable opinion of an early & warm-hearted friend, in which much of individual partiality was to be expected, now reposes on evidences of deep thought, great intelligence and fervent patriotism; in regard to which there can be no mistake.

How fortunate you are in having, & in having had, such a friend. Would to God that the race of such men could be preserved from the wreck of degeneracy, & made perpetual. Yours truly

M. Van Buren

ALS, THi (17-0272). John Overton (1766–1833) was a Tennessee jurist and AJ's longtime friend and political counselor. AJ enclosed this letter to him on January 16 (below).

To John Overton

Janry 16th. 1831—

My Dr friend

I have recd. your two letters on the subject of my message, and the one confidential, the latter after reading, I committed to the fire without shewing it to anyone, but duly noting its contents. They political, I could not withold from shewing them to Mr Van Buren, his note on perusing them I inclose for your satisfaction, as it contains my own feelings & sentiments. I also inclose you a report, (& counter report of the minority) of the committee of manufacturies. The majority has displayed, a littleness & vindictiveness of feeling, with a little Yanky wit, unworthy of representatives of the people—but the minority, has demolished them, and particularly the chairman Mr Malory, whose speech, on a former occasion they quote—as the member from Vermont The minority has managed this, well, Mr. Monell of newyork one of the minority got the report from Mr Mallary, to examine, & the counter report was prepared, and the majority informed that their report would be met by a counter report when made, I enclose you them both for your amusement.[1]

Mrs. Judge White is very low I have not heard from her to day[2] We are quite embargoed by a snow storm, that has drifted so much and formed hillocks impassible—so that there has been no church open to day.

I regret we will not be able to see you here this spring—nothing could give me so much pleasure as to see you here. Present me kindly to Mrs. Overton & your family & believe me yr friend[3]

Andrew Jackson

P.S. your letter enumeration the subscribers to the Globe has been recd. You will be pleased with that paper. It will be fearlessly & talently conducted, principia non homines, will be its guide[4] A. J.

ALS, THi (17-0277). Overton replied on February 3 (below).

1. The House of Representatives had referred so much of AJ's second annual message as related to the tariff and manufactures to its Committee on Manufactures, chaired by Rollin Carolas Mallary (1784–1831) of Vermont. Mallary's majority report on January 13 praised AJ's defense of the constitutionality of protective duties, but criticized his ranking of protection as a secondary object to revenue. Mallary denied that the present tariff, enacted in 1828, needed revision; and he censured AJ's failure to specify which goods deserved less protection, deriding AJ's phrases about consulting the "general good" and protecting only "objects of national importance" as useless abstractions. Robert Monell (1786–1860) of New York submitted a minority report defending AJ's reasoning and seconding his call for an adjustment of duties (*HRRep* 36, 21st Cong., 2d sess., pp. 1–22, Serial 210). Monell quoted a speech Mallary had delivered in the House on March 3 and 4, 1828, saying that manufacturers of coarse woolens would be "ruined" by the new bill (*Register of Debates*, 20th Cong., 1st sess., p. 1741). The rates Mallary was then complaining of were amended before the 1828 tariff's final passage.

2. Elizabeth Moore Carrick White was the wife of Hugh Lawson White (1773–1840), U.S. senator from Tennessee. She died on March 25.

3. Overton's wife was Mary McConnell White May Overton (1782–1862), the sister of Hugh Lawson White.

4. William B. Lewis had written Overton on January 13 acknowledging a letter from Overton to AJ. Overton had sent a list of prospective *Globe* subscribers and advised AJ to get Lewis or Eaton to instruct *Nashville Republican* editor Allen A. Hall to print "copious extracts" from the *Globe*, which Lewis told Overton he had already done (Overton Papers, THi). "Principles, not men" was a favorite Jacksonian slogan.

To John Branch

January 17th. 1831—

The President with his respects to the Secretary of the Navy, incloses him a letter with a bill drew by the Navy agent at Lima, Mr Armstrong which appears to have been protested for non acceptance.

The draft was, it is suggested, for money advanced to the agent there, for repairs &c &c. The Secretary will please furnish a statement of this case, with the reasons for not accepting the draft, with a statement of Armstrongs accounts, & return with it, the inclosed.[1]

The President enclosed on last friday a letter with another inclosed from Col Tutt—which the P. will thank the Secretary to return, with his comments, as early as convenient The President wishes to return an answer to Col Tutt.[2]

AN, DNA-RG 45 (M124-126).

1. Andrew Armstrong was appointed navy agent at Lima, Peru, by President Adams in 1828 and entered on his office June 30, 1829. AJ's enclosure was a letter from a Robert Alsop. Branch replied to AJ on January 18 that the Lima navy agency had been abolished on April 5, 1830. To give time for notification to reach Armstrong, his bills were ordered to be honored if drawn up to 90 days thereafter, and even later if accompanied by proof that they were for legitimate Navy expenses. The bill enclosed by Alsop was drawn August 16, 1830, 43 days past the deadline. Branch added that Armstrong's accounts were still unsettled, but at most recent reckoning he appeared to owe the government $4,633.33 (DNA-RG 45, M472-1).

2. AJ had appointed Charles Pendleton Tutt (1780–1832) navy agent at Pensacola in 1829. Tutt had apparently sent AJ a copy of a letter he wrote Branch on January 2 protesting the Navy Department's recent suspension of remittances to him. Tutt complained that he "must have been grossly slandered and abused" to earn this mistrust, and that Branch's unwarranted enmity "has caused me to suffer the tortures of the damned, and nothing but a conscious rectitude of action and intention, could have sustained me under the infliction of the exemplary punishment you have visited upon me" (DNA-RG 45, M124-126). Branch answered AJ on January 20 that payments to Tutt had been stopped until he could explain his extraordinary requisitions for funds and the large cash balances he appeared to be maintaining. Branch remarked that "in the course which has been pursued towards Mr. T. there has been no act of intentional hostility, no object in view, but a desire to secure the interest of the Government from abuse." He noted that a further statement from Tutt of his accounts had just arrived (DNA-RG 45, M472-1). Branch wrote Tutt on February 4 resuming remittances and noting progress in settling Tutt's accounts (DNA-RG 45, M441-2).

From William Pitt Preble

The Hague 17 Janry 1831

Sir

The original of the preceding letter was forwarded with dispatches by a vessel which in attempting to put to sea got stopped by the ice and as I learn has not yet been able to extricate herself. I have had so much to do since I received the document containg the Kings disposition of our boundary business and am so anxious to forward my dispatch containg a copy of that document and an account of my doings to the Department of State that I have at this moment only time to again solicit leave of absence.[1] My own opinion is that the U States need no diplomatic Agent at this Court that its dignity would be better consulted by having none that its commercial interests needs none and that a withdrawal would best be effected by leave of absence to operate in fact as a recal. I make these remarks the more freely because I know the Govt here, who are full of bad faith and double dealing, are suspicious of Major D. and he knowg them perfectly has a very thorough contempt for them. But on these points he

will speak for himself. I commend him to your kindness. I doubt not his good faith. As to our boundary business I hope you will allow me to see you and to have a full conversation before you adopt any measures. With the highest consideration & respect

Wm. P. Preble

[Endorsed by Van Buren:] Mr Preble private letter to the President

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (17-0282).

1. Preble enclosed a copy of a letter he had written AJ on December 25, 1830, also requesting a leave of absence (*Jackson Papers*, 8:715–16). His dispatch to Van Buren, enclosing a copy of William I's decision on the Northeast boundary, was begun January 16 and completed January 17. AJ wrote Van Buren upon its reception in Washington on March 16 (below).

To John Coffee

Washington January 19th. 1831—

Dr Genl

On the 17th. instant I receeived your letter of the first of this month, and on the same day refered it to the Commissioner of the general Land office, and have the pleasure to inclose you his reply, which will be satisfactory to you.

you will be renominated unless congress should do away the office which I do not suppose will be the case.[1]

So soon as we hear from the Chikisaws & choctaws mission to Arkansa, we will take measures to obtain the location of the chikisaws within the boundery of the choctaws, *west*.[2]

I expect Emily and Mary Easton will come on in march or april—could you not pay us a visit and bring on your daughter. It would afford me much pleasure to see you both here; and I am sure nothing would be more pleasing to your friends *here*, and particularly your friend Eaton If you should agree to come on with Mary, I have no doubt but Mr MLamore will bring on his daughter with you & you could come with Mrs. D. & Mary Easton.[3]

You will see from the papers that there are much angry feeling springing up in the opposition in Congress. They die hard, *but die the will*.

The Clay Candidate has not succeeded in Kentuckey; The supporters of the administration might have succeeded but they could not unite *all* upon one man.[4]

I have no time to say more at present. Write me on the receipt of this & advise me if you will be on, that I may not be absent when you arrive. Present me affectionately to Polly & all your family and believe me yr friend[5]

Andrew Jackson

ALS, THi (17-0291). Coffee replied on February 6 (below).

1. John Coffee was appointed surveyor of public lands in Alabama by President Monroe in 1817 and subsequently reappointed, most recently by Adams in 1827. With his current four-year term nearing expiration, Coffee had written AJ on January 1 about his accounts. Saying he did not want to be viewed as a defaulter, he explained that he had, on instruction from the General Land Office (GLO), retained a surplus of $4709.37 in surveying funds on hand rather than remit it to the Treasury, but that he stood willing to return it or draw on it for salary (DLC-38). AJ referred Coffee's letter to GLO commissioner Elijah Hayward (1786–1864) of Ohio. Hayward replied to AJ on January 19, approving Coffee's retaining the funds but telling him not to use them for salary, which came from a separate appropriation (THi, 17-0295). AJ nominated Coffee for a new term on February 16 and the Senate confirmed him on February 21.

2. U.S. commissioners Coffee and John Eaton had concluded removal treaties with the Chickasaws at Franklin, Tenn., in August 1830, and with the Choctaws at Dancing Rabbit Creek in September. The Chickasaw treaty did not allocate them a distinct territory beyond the Mississippi, but instead made removal contingent on locating west of Arkansas "a country suitable to their wants and condition." In late 1830 Choctaw and Chickasaw scouting parties went out under federal escort and linked up in the west. Subsequent failure to agree on terms for settling the Chickasaws within the Choctaw domain rendered the Treaty of Franklin, under its own provisions, "null and void," and Coffee negotiated a new Chickasaw removal treaty in 1832 (*Indian Treaties,* 2:1036).

3. AJ and Donelson had seemingly reconciled over the Eaton affair. AJ wrote Emily Donelson on January 20, the next day (below). Coffee's daughter was Mary Donelson Coffee (1812–1839), first cousin of Mary Ann Eastin and Mary McLemore and niece of Emily Donelson.

4. In repeated balloting from January 4 until adjournment on January 15, the Kentucky legislature had failed to elect a U.S. senator to fill the seat of John Rowan (1773–1843), whose term was to expire March 3. Clay candidate John Jordan Crittenden (1786–1863) received up to one vote short of a majority, while Jacksonian votes were split between Rowan, Richard M. Johnson, Charles A. Wickliffe, and John Breathitt. The seat sat vacant until November, when Henry Clay was elected.

5. "Polly" is a diminutive of Mary—in this instance, Coffee's wife.

To the Marquis de Lafayette

Washington January 19th. 1831—

My dear Genl

An extract from a letter of yours to Genl Barnard, received at the moment of his departure for Paris, has been shewn to me, by which it appears that you are promoting a satisfactory adjustment of the claims which have so long been a subject of discussion between the United States and France.[1] This evidence of your sincere attachment to both countries will excite no surprise in the minds of our people. It accords so well with your whole career that its annunciation will be received by them as only the confirmation of anticipations which their confidence in your unalterable justice and friendship naturally indulged. I should however be wanting in duty and do injustice to my own feelings were I to pass over in silence this new evidence of your friendly concern for us. Allow me, my dear Sir, to thank you for it, and to express my hopes that your

perseverence in so laudable an object may be dignified with that success which ought to be accorded to the wishes of the champion of Liberty in one hemisphere, and its founder in another.

It must be acknowledged that the relations between the two Countries, altho generally amicable and liberal, have not been of that unalloyed character which the events of our revolution were calculated to impart. But it would be equally unwise and unprofitable to review subjects long since disposed of, for the purpose of tracing the causes of a result so unnatural & inconsistant with our mutual interests.

The attempt would probably shew that in this as in other cases, there have been faults on both sides; and we are led by the dictates of true wisdom as well as the suggestions of christian charity, to look to the future for what the past has failed to supply. Those relations ought ever to have presented the characterestic of a close and liberal friendship: and it would be a waste of time to enlarge upon the cogency of the reasons furnished by recent events for stamping indelibly at the present moment these characterestics upon them. no one has it in his power to do more in this respect than yourself; and it is cause of gratitude to the supreme disposer of all good that for this among other objects, you have been spared to the present auspicious period in the history of the world.

Excuse me Sir, for inviting you to a vigorous prosecution of the work you have commenced under such favorable auspices, while I assure you of my liberal and indefatigable cooperation. The natural disposition of this people towards France is one of warmth and kindness; and it requires only the discharge of what all candid and just men must regard as a duty on her part, to mature that disposition into the most useful fruits. They expect this from the present King; for the impression that he takes a personal interest in the removal of all causes of difference between the two countries has taken full possession of their minds. They view it as the natural consequence of the estimate they have formed of his character, and of the principles on which his throne is founded. Am I wrong in supposing that among the good acts which are to consecrate those principles that will be numbered which will bring justice, long delayed but immutable justice, to a ~~principle~~ people who looking beyond the forms of the respective governments feel the influence of that sympathy which is inspired by their congenial institutions.

May I ask the favor of you (as I know not where I could find a more suitable channel) to express to the King the high personal respect I entertain for him, and my sincere, and ardent wishes for his health, & happiness, and prosperity: and allow me in conclusion to salute you with the assurance of my respect and unalterable regard

Andrew Jackson

ALS, NIC (17-0296). ALS draft, DLC (38); Bassett, 4:224–26. Draft in AJ Donelson's hand, DLC (38). Lafayette (1757–1834) was a celebrated hero of the American Revolution and had been instrumental in bringing Louis Philippe to the French throne in 1830. He and AJ

had been friends since Lafayette's grand tour of the U.S. in 1824–1825. For years the U.S. had been pressing France without success to honor damage claims for French spoliations on American commerce committed during the Napoleonic Wars.

1. French military engineer Simon Bernard (1779–1839) emigrated to the U.S. after Napoleon's overthrow and was appointed in 1816, on Lafayette's recommendation, to plan and construct an American system of coastal fortifications, with the pay and title of an Army general. In December 1830 he obtained a furlough to visit France. AJ had written Lafayette commending him on December 23, 1830 (*Jackson Papers*, 8:703–4). Later in 1831 Bernard came back to the U.S., resigned, and returned to France to re-enter French military service.

To Emily Tennessee Donelson

[Andrew J. Donelson's several letters to Emily Donelson in early January bore no hint of an impending break in the familial impasse over the Eaton affair. But on January 15, Donelson wrote Emily that he had "had a very satisfactory conversation with Uncle in relation to our social difficulty" and that Jackson had acceded to her return to Washington essentially on the Donelsons' terms, disclaiming any intent to control their social relations outside his own household. Donelson counseled maintaining a discreet silence over the Eaton affair, "but at the same time never to deviate from the path in which we have walked from the beginning." He proposed returning for Emily as soon as Congress adjourned on March 3 (Donelson Papers, DLC; Bassett, 4:227).]

January 20th. 1831

My dear Emily

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your affectionate letter of the 30th. ultimo, and rejoice to hear that your sweet little Mary Rachel have been restored to health, & that you & Jackson with that of all your connections enjoy that blessing; may a gracious providence long continue that blessing to you all.[1]

Your dear husband is in good health, as well as my son, Mr Earle & Major Lewis, who, all unite in kind salutations to you & Mary Easton.

your dear Husband will proceed as soon as congress rises, to unite with, & bring you & Mary Easton on here, with the sweet little children; unless advised that Mr. MLamore & Genl Coffee, with their daughters, are coming on in the spring; on which subject, Major Donelson has written Mr. M.Lamore, and I have written Genl Coffee.

Before this can reach you, Genl Donelson & Margaret must have arrived, from whom you must have recd. all the news of this vast matropolis.[2] The winter has been severe, and we have been for the last five days embargoed by the depth of snow. we have not receeived a mail from Newyork for some days. The weather is now fair, & promises a good ~~weather~~ clear & dry atmosphere, which must be beneficial to the health of the city, much afflicted with bad colds.

How much I feel endebted to you for your visit to the Hermitage. How grateful it is to me at all times to hear that care and attention is paid to that sacred *spot*, that holds the remains of almost all that ~~makes~~ made life desirable to me. *She still*, and must *ever*, live fresh in my memory, & affection. *She* often hovers around me in my nightly visions, and could I with honor to myself, and with the consent of the good people of these united States, retire to the Hermitage, with what pleasure would I hasten to it: but this is forbidden, & I must submit with humility, to my fate.

I sent by Daniel a small memento to jackson, & Mary Easton, which I hope they have got, and also those little things sent by Andrew to you, I hope has been handed to you. Altho we have been visited by a vast number of ladies & Gentlemen, and inundated as usual, by office hunters, still we have appeared loansome—several times have I been left to sup alone. The Levee was numerously attended, but still, there being no lady of the House, there ~~appeared~~ was something wanting, and the ladies appeared without a pivot to move on. We have had but one, and the House will be open only two evenings more. Mr Van Buren is often enquiring after you & Mary, & is the same open candid friend as usual.

I cannot close without naming my friend Major Eaton. he is the true unvarying friend to me. nothing that concerns my welfare, that escapes his notice, and no intrigue against me, that is not at once counteracted, as far as he has the power, & the various movements made known to me. You cannot then but suppose how much disquietude it has occasioned to me, that harmony did not exist between you, your dear husband, & him, & his family. Mrs. Eaton, like all others, may have her imprudencies, if she has, let them be so considered & treated as improprieties, but not treated as lady without virtue—for my dear Emily, I now assure you, that the time is not far distant when the injuries done her in this respect, will be made manifest. The whole will be traced to what I always suspected, a political maneauvre, by desappointed ambition, to coerce Major Eaton out of the Cabinet, & lessen my standing with the people, so that they would not again urge my re-election. But anough of this my Dr. Emily; you have given me assurances, sufficient to satisfy me, that your course will be that of propriety *to all*; and I am sure that I would be the last on earth that would require any sacrafice of feeling that did not comport with that, from you, or any of my connections.

I have been so often interrupted since I commenced this letter, that I fear it is so disjointed & interlined, that you cannot read or understand it, and I have not time to copy ~~it and~~. I am sure you will not criticise it. Present me kindly to your mother and all her family, to Mary Easton, and every branch of the connection, and particularly to your uncle Alexander.[3] I fear I shall never see him again this side the grave, as I do not ~~suppose~~ believe I can return to Tennessee this summer, but I suppose I will send out my son to look at, and arrange my business.

Kiss the two little ones for me, & Rachel Easton, & filians little boy, and accept of my prayers for your welfare & happiness, & believe me affectionately yours[4]

Andrew Jackson

N.B present me to Genl Donl. & his lady affectionaley they promised to visit the Hermitage.

P.S. If A. J. Hutchings is in the neighbourhood present my respects to him, & remind him of his promise to write me, I have recd. but one letter from him since I left him, & I am very solicitous that he should be at school.[5] A. J.

ALS, DLC-Donelson Papers (17-0302).

1. None of Emily Donelson's letters to AJ are extant.

2. Daniel Smith Donelson (1801–1863) was AJ Donelson's brother and a brigadier general of Tennessee militia. He had married Margaret Branch (b. 1811), daughter of Navy secretary John Branch, in October 1830.

3. Alexander Donelson (1751–1834) was an unmarried brother of Rachel Jackson. Emily's mother was Mary Purnell Donelson (1763–1848).

4. Rachel Jackson Eastin (1822–1865) was Emily's niece and Mary Ann Eastin's younger sister. Phila Ann Lawrence Donelson (1809–1851) was the wife of Emily's brother Stockley Donelson (1805–1888). Her son was John Purnell Donelson (1829–1864).

5. Andrew Jackson Hutchings (1811–1841) was the orphaned son of Rachel's nephew and AJ's former business partner John Hutchings. AJ was his legal guardian and co-executor with John Coffee of the Hutchings estate. Young Hutchings had left several schools. He wrote Coffee on January 10 pledging to return to one of them, an academy at Columbia, Tenn., for a few months more (Coffee Papers, THi).

From Daniel W. Wright

[On December 9, 1830, Jackson had submitted the Choctaw removal treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek to the Senate, where a vote on its ratification was now pending.]

Hamilton (Miss) Jany 23rd. 1831

Dear Sir

I have just passed through the Choctaw Nation on my return home from our Supreme Court. I had an opportunity of Seeing & conversing with Several of the Capt. & head men on the Subject of their removal west of the Mississippi to their new homes, as also in regard to their being Sattisfied with the terms & provisions of the Treaty

They are perfectly Sattisfied with the Treaty and are anxious to embrace its Terms a few who were at first opposed are now reconciled and only wait for an opportunity to emigrate

Those whom I Saw and conversed with among them Mushulatubbee, say that they wish to have provision made for them in their own respective

Districts and they will go in families or Companies, use their own horses & such as have provisions of their own &c.[1] They say they can not go in Steam boats that the women can not be induced to go on board of them with their children

A great many have gone and are going dayly if the Senate reject or rather refuse to rattify the Treaty, the Indians Themselves will virtually do it for them by abandoning the Country

I will venture the opinion that if ample provision is made for them that there will not by the first day of December next be five hundred remaining in the Country

All disturbances among them have measurably subsided. They have been trying to break some of their Chiefs and appoint others. I am pleased to find the Secretary at War take the Course he has in regard to that matter it will have the effect to quell entirely their disturbances[2]

The above is written partly at the request of Mushulatubbee & others and a wish on my own part to render my feeble aid in any & every respect where it is probable it might be useful to you or my govt. I am with Sentiments of high regard your obt Sevt

D. W. Wright

ALS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-169). Copy, DNA-RG 46 (17-0339). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 400–401 (Serial 245). Wright (1795–1844) was a lawyer and former Mississippi state legislator.

1. The Choctaws were organized in three districts, each headed by an elected chief. Mushulatubbe (d. 1838) had been chief of the northeastern district and was the second Choctaw signatory to the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek. On January 16, he wrote Eaton announcing his resignation as chief and the election of his nephew Peter P. Pitchlynn to succeed him and lead the emigration (DNA-RG 75, M234-169; *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 393–94, Serial 245).

2. From October 1830 on, the War Department received reports of Choctaw opposition to the treaty and of movements to eject from office the three district chiefs who had signed it. Responding to one such, Eaton wrote Choctaw agent William Ward on November 24, 1830, that while the Choctaws were free to choose their own leaders, the War Department would "not *acknowledge* or *recognize*" any chief not properly elected. Ward was to admonish the Choctaws that "that factious sort of spirit which induces the breaking of a Chief by the vote of a few discontented persons, when the whole body of the people are not consulted, is anti-Republican; and must tend to keep up strife and animosity. These must be prevented" (DNA-RG 75, M21-7; *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 46–47, Serial 245). A report from David W. Haley to AJ on March 10 (below) prompted a further administration response.

To [John Branch]

Janry 25th 1831—

Dr Sir,

I enclose you a letter just forwarded to me with the above note from Col Dwight, from the father of the late midshipman Fields—

I have not a clear recollection of the evidence, but believe the charge was disobedience only—if so, & not accompanied with any henious, agravating, or disgracefull circumstances—Let him be reappointed—His distressed situation, and penance for the past, may ensure good conduct for the future—let me hear the case from you, that determination may be given finally upon this distressing subject—very respectfully yrs

Andrew Jackson

ALS, MB (17-0346). AJ appended this letter to a note Massachusetts congressman Henry Williams Dwight (1788–1845) had sent him on January 19, enclosing an appeal from David Dudley Field (1781–1867), a Congregational minister of Stockbridge. Field's son, Timothy Beals Field (1809–1836), had been a midshipman on the frigate *Java*. Field was court-martialed in September 1830 on a charge brought by his commanding officer, Captain James Biddle, of disobedience of orders and conduct unbecoming an officer, for leaving the ship for a full night and day without leave. Field pled guilty but submitted a defense critical of Biddle and refused to withdraw it despite the Court's advice (DNA-RG 125, M273-25). He was found guilty and sentenced to dismissal from the Navy. AJ approved the sentence on December 10, 1830. On December 28 Dwight had appealed to AJ, claiming that Biddle showed favoritism in not punishing two other midshipmen for the same offense. AJ had referred that appeal to Branch, saying that reinstating Field "would be a precedent injurious to the service & morales of the officers," but that if this was Field's only offense "he might be reappointed—the loss of grade would be a severe lesson to others, not to offend in like cases" (DNA-RG 45, M124-125). Field had been a midshipman since 1825.

Decision concerning Timothy Beals Field

January 25th. 1831—

The President has reviewed the case of Midshipman Fields, and until he withdraws his defence offered to the court that tried him, he cannot be reappoint~~ment~~ed as a Midshipman The lenity extended by Commodore[1] Biddle to these youths, deserved all their thanks instead of the indecorous language used in his defence. The Sec. of the Navy will communicate this to Colo. Dwight who will make it known to Mr Fields

AD, DNA-RG 125 (M273-25). Field had already written Branch on January 24 withdrawing his defense and regretting that he had ever delivered it (DNA-RG 125, M273-25). The defense was removed from the file, and Field was reappointed a midshipman to rank from January 24. He resigned from the Navy in July.

1. The Navy's highest legal rank was captain. A senior captain commanding a squadron was accorded the title of "commodore," which he then retained throughout his career.

From Charles Henry Waring Wharton

Washington, 26th Janry 1831

Dear Sir,

As the moment has nearly arrived when your official duty will call upon you to nominate the marshall of the District of Columbia, permit me again to draw your attention to this subject, and once more to solicit of you the nomination of my Brother in Law & friend Col Henry Ashton. To some, whose official dignity places them beyond the influence of the kindest and best feelings of the human heart, the repetition of this request, would appear almost impertinent: but, to you Sir, whose benevolence of manners bespeaks a mind beyond such influence, and a heart which is capable of feeling, I persuade myself that it will present itself in a very different light. Permit me then I say Sir, to renew this subject & most respectfully, to solicit this favour.

If there be a man in this District who is entitled to your confidence, or has a right to look for your favour, that man is Col Ashton. Of a character untarnished with a blush—of talents of a very high order—of information various and extensive—of a capacity for labour which I have never seen surpassed—of a courage which never shrinks at danger—of morals upright & pure—of dispositions the most kind and generous—to all these he adds the most sincere attachment to your person and those principles upon which you were placed in your present situation. At the very commencement of the last Presidential contest he was your friend. *He* did not wait to see how the popular breeze would blow: but at the very moment when victory had perched upon the banners of the adversary —at the moment, when, to espouse your cause, was, in this City, the signal for political persecution—at the moment when our presses *here* were pouring out their floods of billingsgate against you & your party, Col Ashton unappalled by the threats of persecution; & regardless of personal consequences, became your decided and undisguised advocate. Too honest to barter his principles for office, he sought no alliance with the members of the opposite party. Too frank to play the hypocrite, he scorned the language of evasion, or the practices of duplicity: and too independant in his mind to look to consequences, he had advanced his opinions with frankness, and maintained them with firmness. Such Sir, is the man, whose nomination I presume, to solicit at your hands—Your friend & your advocate—Your friend & your advocate in the worst of times—your friend & your advocate when corruption was sweeping thro' the Land—and—I hate Sir to advert to the circumstance, but I can't help it—when woman, the very feebleness of whose sex commands & receives the protection of the generous and the brave—found not in that feebleness a shield against falsehood and slander.[1] Yes Sir—it was at this epoch—an epoch, in the estimation of many, pregnant with the most awful consequences—an epoch of licentiousness—& the grosest abuse,

when Col Ashton and a few others in this City boldly advocated your cause, and bared their breasts against the power of the Government and the artillery of the Press. And now Sir—allow me most respectfully to ask you the question, ought such a man as this to be neglected? When the political battle raged where was he? In the foremost ranks of your friends. When political persecution stalked thro' the Land, where was he? By the side of his General. When corruption had *cheated* the people of their rights, where was he found? At his post, exposing the foul deed, & calling upon the people to assert & maintain their rights. I again then ask Sir—but most respectfully—ought such a man to be neglected? When an office of importance is to be bestowed, and he the solicitor for it, ought he to sue in vain? I trust Sir, that you think not. A few words as to the pecuniary situation of my friend Col Ashton. Once a man of fortune, he is now poor. His family, consisting of six single daughters—one of whom is a widdow is entirely dependant on him, and he is poor. I assure you Sir, that his only means of support are found in his profession, and *these* indeed are very limitted. Once they were considerable. But, to be your advocate as Col Ashton has been—fearlessly and openly—is in this place, to draw down upon his head all the persecution of which the most rancorous spirit of faction can produce. But I must conclude.

You have it in your power dear Sir to gladden the hearts of a large and dependant family. And that almighty God may incline you to do so, is the prayer of one who is in truth your most obdt Servt & sincere well wisher

Charles H W Wharton

ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Wharton (c1779–1841) had been a Washington, D.C., justice of the peace since 1821. Henry Ashton (d. 1834), a Washington attorney, had been a lieutenant colonel of Maryland militia in the War of 1812 and in the 1828 campaign was a member of Jackson's Central Committee in Washington. Ashton and Wharton had married sisters Cecilia Brown Key and Rebecca Sotheron Key. The four-year term of District of Columbia marshal Tench Ringgold (1776–1844) was to expire January 31. Among those who wrote AJ this same day recommending Ashton to replace him were Treasury auditor Amos Kendall and attorney Francis Scott Key, second cousin of Ashton's wife. AJ nominated Ashton for marshal on January 31. The Senate confirmed him, 34 to 6, on February 4.

1. Rachel Jackson's character had been attacked in the 1828 campaign, enraging AJ.

L. N. Fields to Dixon Hall Lewis

Ala— M—y Cty— Talapoose hights Jany the 26th day 1831

Dear Sir,

I have lately purchased some Indian Improovements from the Indians in the near Towns in the nation, imbraseing the whole of what is known by the name of the Alabamy Bend, on the north side of the Talapoose river, Comprising a Tract of about 400 acres and have taken possessing of it, and when the head Cheafes of the nation heard of it, they assembled a

Council, and have determind to put them to Death, as soon as they Can find whoo they are, that have sold, and I much fear, that before the president Can send on (if he will Interfeare at all) and for bid it, that they will find them out (for it is next to Imposable for an Indian to doe any thing in secret) and have them Exicuted, but I hope that you will Intersead withe the president, and get him to Interpose his authority, and timely prevent the mischief, also the Council has sent on to the president to repprisent me as an Intruder, and their by Caus him to send Troops and dispossess mee of the possession that I pay the Indians (Indeviduals occupying) 150 Dolars for, that I think would be a hard Case—and my only dependance is on you, by your Inflewance with the president, and knowledge of me, to prevent so unjust a Coars being taken with me, I also have reason to believe that the Cheafs are Instigated to this Coares, by some white purson that wanted the plase themselvs, and if this Coars would not answer, in the Event of the Chiefs selling that one of the deligation (whoo lives near Claiborn, and Conciquently does not belong to the nation) by name, Stigins—Intends to get a resurve on the same land to defeat my possession (he has all reddy Intimated as much) on which the Indian title (I Contend) is all ready Extinguishd[1]—at least, they are amply paid for their Improovements, and have gave me full possession, with these Items before you I Confidently hope that you will suffer know rong done me; but as much good as you Can—but with the Experiance that I have had in this Trade with the Indians, I verry doo believe that any purson that would fully divote them selves to the Interest of government and being well acquainted with the Indians and were filly autherisd to make purchases in the same way, of private Indeviduals, having power to Call a few soldiers to protect those that sold, and punnish those that would attempt to Inflict punnishment on those that did sell that the nation might be got with half the Expence with the Exception of some 4 or 5 Cheafs and reservations would answer them, for I have not talkd with one on the subject but has seamd willing to sell, was it not for fear of the Tiranny of those feew Chiefs—for these monsters in human shap, by their Despotism have Complete Empire over the minds of Every Indian in the nation, I hope that you will use your best influance to get the president to recognise my purchase, and all others made in like manner, and while I am Troubleing you, purmit me to ask you to try to get an amendment made to the Preemption law of the 29th of may last, so as to grant as many preemptions to Each Indevidual as he may have Bought Claimes that he was occupying at the pasage of the Law—and also, in all cases wheir two or more are occupying on a fraction less than 160 acres that the oldest Claimant may have the prefferance and all so, all pursons occupying at the pasage of the Law may be intitled,[2] the vital importance that these things is to me, and other of your friends, I hope, will amply Excuse the burthens I wish to lay upon you, I subscribe my self with great respect yours,

L. N. Fields

[Endorsed by AJ:] refered to the Secretary of War, that he may reply. That the President will not countenance private purchases by individuals from the Creek Indians. When they sell, the land, & improvements belongs to the Govt. Individuals have no right to purchase A. J.

ALS, DNA-RG 107 (M222-29). Dixon Hall Lewis (1802–1848) was an Alabama congressman. The Tallapoosa River above Montgomery County flowed through the center of the Creek domain in eastern Alabama. The Creeks had so far rebuffed AJ's urgings to cede their lands and remove.

1. George Stiggins (1788–1845) was a Natchez Indian affiliated with the Creeks.

2. The Preemption Act of May 29, 1830, gave to every settler occupying unsold public land at the time of passage the preemptive right to purchase his holding at the legal minimum price of $1.25 per acre in advance of the general public auction. Proof of occupancy and improvement was required, preemption was limited to a single 160-acre tract per person, and transfer of preemption claims was forbidden. If there were multiple occupants on the same tract, the two first settlers could each claim 80 acres within it and another 80 outside.

From Peter A. Hall

City of Washington
the 28th of January 1831

Dear Sir

after my most polite respects I will inform you that I am still in the City of Washington and not able to get away without some assistance there is no general rool without exception and I have no doubt but there is a great many impostures and men that would get money in any way that they Could even by beging but this is fair from mee if sir you would Condesend to loan me some money as mutch as will take me to Kentucky I will bee under lasting obligations to you for your favours I would not ask nor trouble you if I had any other friend to go to but being a stranger here I have a bad Chance to make a friend I also very mutch hate to say anything about the situation of my friends but the most of our Kentucky deligation are hard run I made aplication to my representative Doct Gather[1] I got a few dollars but intirely insufficent to answer my purposes if it is endley Convenient to let me have as mutch as will take mee back to old Mr Mc.Gafficks this side of with Courthouse[2] where I lift my horse I Can get as mutch of him as will take mee home I have been totally disapointed in geting money in this Cunterey or in montgomery County agreeable to my expectation and now am almost entireley without and sir suffer me to beeg pardon for pestering you with this leter and also suffer mee to say to your Honours Excelency not with a vew to self agrandizement that it is beyond human grasp to take hold of any Conduct of mine that is not Strictley honest and Correct my Course of living is that of industery I will file with this leter what my neighbours will say of me as an honest man pardon mee when I tell you that you and myself are as nearley related Pollitically as two brothers naturrally I will show you from under

the hand of some of my neigbours that I have always been your politicle friend but you are under no obligation to me for that for what I dun in that respect I don as rite I think so yet and shall allwais think the same believing you to bee the same honest harted republican that I first believed you and that all honest men are bound to say of your honour the same If Sir I did not believe that you would listen to me with as mutch satisfaction as festus did to st pall[3] I now I Could not get my Concent to let you see this and if I would bee ashamed of the best man in the united states in leting him now my situation how would I feel to ask the prowd scorner for favours Now Sir pardon and excuse me fo this intrusion and permit me to asure you that I am your sincere friend and mos obedient servant

Peter A Hall of Green Ct Kentucky

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr Hall to be filed—gave him ten dollars U. States bill—A. J Janry. 28th 1831 My son will file this with my private papers A. J

ALS, DLC (38). Hall (c1798–1855) was a Virginia native.

1. Physician Nathan Gaither (1788–1862) was a Kentucky congressman.

2. Likely Hugh McGavock (1761–1844), a prominent resident of Wythe County in southwest Virginia.

3. In Acts 25–26, Paul is accused before the Roman procurator Porcius Festus, who hears his defense and determines he has committed no crime.

From Maunsel White

New Orleans Jany. 29th. 1831

Dr. Sir.

I some time since had the Honor to receive the Letter you were so kind as to address me under date 18th Nov. last; informing me, that you had directed your Cotton to be sent to me for sale, & expressing a hope that I would find it nicely handled & well put up. I should have long since replied to you, but knowing how much your time is Occupied with public affairs I wished to be able before I wrote to give you my Opinion of your Cotton, this I have now the pleasure to inform you that I am able to do. It arrived a few days ago in beautiful order, & was put away safely without a Drop of rain. 59 Bales. I cut seven of them indiscriminately & it gives me great satisfaction to say to you that your Overseer has done his duty so far. it was without blemish. and the quality, (by Judges,) pronounced good; but I am sorry to say no One offered me more than 9 cents lb. in place of what you were in hopes of getting Our choisest crops dont bring over 10 cents. altho quoted at 10½—& our Market is unusally dull, but this is to be attributed to a scarcity of shipping as well as the unsettled state of politics in Europe, added to the failures & Disturbances in England. We ought to

have had much later dates than the 11th Decr. from England the latest we have recd. & I am therefore in hopes that our next advices will inform us that all is Once more quiet in Europe. if so we may confidently look forward to immediate improvement both as respects price & Demand. I therefore intend to hold your Cotton at 10 cents. which I think it is fully worth until better or worse news reaches us. the later I do not by any means calculate on, but it is within the range of probability in the event of a general War in Europe, on this subject however, you must be better advised than any one else in these states. & if it were not asking too much, or what might be improper for me to ask, I would ask yr opinion on that subject. & also permission to ask you for another favor, in which I pledge myself that there shall be nothing either indiscreet or improper, & which you would not grant if consistent with the high office you Occupy. I may also be permitted to inform you, that notwithstanding our Local Elections, do not seem to corrispond with the good Cause; they will not influence, in the least, when the Tug of War arrives—Your Friends are as true as steel but some who wished to get office by your popularity have been disappointed, & they deserved it. they were not our choice. Our Mutual Friend Mr Martin Gordon requested me to present him respectfully to you.[1] I pray you to accept of the assurance of my most sincere Friendship and respect, while I remain your devoted Servt

Maunsel White

ALS, DLC (39). White (1783–1863) was AJ's cotton factor at New Orleans.

1. In July 1830 elections, candidates friendly to Henry Clay won the Louisiana governorship, all three congressional seats, and a majority in the state legislature. Martin Gordon (c1773–1852) had been appointed customs collector at New Orleans by AJ in April 1829.

To Martin Van Buren

Janry. 31rst. 1831—

The President with his respects to the Sec. of State encloses a resolution of the House of Representatives calling for information which he requests the Sec. will furnish at as early a period as he can, so far as the correspondence in his Dept. will furnish it; & to which may be added, *that the President has ordered a sloop of war* to be fitted out to cruize upon the coasts of Portugal, for the protection of our commerce—

AN, DNA-RG 59 (M179-70). On January 29, the House passed resolutions asking what measures had been taken in response to the seizure on July 4, 1829, of the American whaler *Galatea* and imprisonment of its crew by a Portuguese squadron blockading the island of Terceira in the Azores (*House Journal*, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 229, Serial 205). The blockade was part of Dom Miguel's campaign against rival claimant to the Portuguese throne Maria da Glória, later Maria II. On February 15, Van Buren submitted a report detailing American official protests and demands for indemnity for the *Galatea* and other seizures.

AJ forwarded it to the House the same day, adding that before the House resolution was introduced he had already ordered a warship to prepare to protect American commerce in the area (Richardson, 2:535–36). On February 19, Portuguese chargé d'affaires J. F. Torlade Pereira de Azambuja wrote Van Buren pledging a fair resolution of the dispute and asking that a ship not be sent, and on March 8 Van Buren told him AJ would countermand the order (*Treaties*, 3:662–63). By a settlement signed at Lisbon on January 19, 1832, Portugal agreed to indemnify the U.S. for four seizures at Terceira, including $38,063.85 for the *Galatea* and additional sums for its crew.

To Martin Van Buren

[On May 27, 1830, Jackson had vetoed a bill to subscribe for stock in Kentucky's Maysville Road company. Objecting to piecemeal federal subsidy of merely local works, he called for a constitutional amendment clarifying congressional power to fund or construct internal improvements. In that message, and also in his first two annual messages, he proposed distributing surplus federal funds to the states as a fairer and less politically contentious alternative to direct road and canal spending.]

Private
Dr Sir

I have read Mr Crawfords letter with attention & now return it; that of Mr Balch has been placed, as you directed, in the fire.[1]

I agree with Mr C. in his views of the constitution; and in the veto message presented my doubts as to the constitutional power of congress.

But as congress was a coordinate branch of the Government, and had the right of acting upon their own construction of the constitution, until it became necessary for me in performing my official duties, it was anough for me to suggest my doubts to them & call their attention to the subject that an amendment might be proposed by congress on this subject, or proposed by the States. The Suggestion to you, to draw the attention of your legislature to this subject, is a good one. your

Andrew Jackson

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (17-0113).

1. Alfred Balch (1785–1853) was a Nashville lawyer and a Van Buren political ally.

[Enclosure: William Harris Crawford to Van Buren]

Wood Lawn 3d January 1831

My dear Sir,

You judged rightly when you supposed the President's message upon the Maysville & Lexington turnpike would give me pleasure. You have requested my opinion upon the best means of carrying into effect the Presidents views upon the subject of internal improvements. My dear sir

the best, & only means of regulating internal improvements, is to call a convention to revise the constitution. In the late message of the President, the mode of distributing the funds destined for internal improvements & the objections to that mode are considered. The only objection which has any weight with me is not considered in the message If Congress was invested generally with the right of carrying on internal improvements, it by no means follows that it could delegate that right to the state governments. It is a general rule that no delegated authority can be subdelegated, unless the act of delegation contains authority for that purpose. If I understand the Presidents message upon the Maysville road he expressly denies the right of Congress to make local internal improvements; yet if the money is distributed among the states it will be so applied by them. I am myself an advocate for such a distribution as the President proposes, if the constitution would permit it; & if a convention was called I think there would be no difficulty in procuring an amendment to that effect. The Western people are a great ways from shipping ports; they have not the monied capital necessary to make the roads & canals that will enable them to carry their abundant productions to places of exportation. They therefore insist that the improvements necessary for this purpose shall be made at the expense of the Union; but they will be satisfied with the distribution proposed by the ~~convention~~ President & which I should propose were I a member of a convention called to revise the constitution. There would be one advantage attending such a change. After a war it is presumed that all the onerous taxes imposed during the war would be repealed, but it is presumed those permitted to remain would yield a surplus after defraying the current expenses of the government. This surplus might be distributed among the states upon the principles proposed by the President, & after the necessary internal improvements were made it might be applied to the support of a liberal system of education. When war should again occur, there would be no surplus to distribute, & it would diminish the necessity of laying war taxes. If this surplus was distributed according to the whim or caprice of Congress, it might be degrading to the State governments to receive it, but not if it was a constitutional right. The U S can raise money cheaper than a state. It is therefore for the interest of the contributors that it should be raised by congress, altho' it be expended by the states individually. I think there can be no danger that the members of congress will leave unrepealed an odious or unpopular tax for the sake of distributing a surplus among the states. As long as a majority of congress shall be in favor of internal improvements there is danger that bills will be presented, that it will be difficult for the President to put his veto upon them consistently with his message. If you think with me will you my dear sir cause the subject to be brought under the consideration of the Legislature of New York during its present session. A Resolution from that body requiring the call of a convention will have great weight with

the other states. I wrote to Mr Camberleng on the same subject during the last session.[1] I am dear sir your friend & most obt servt

Wm H Crawford

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (17-0115). Van Buren had had a long association with Crawford, supporting his failed bid for the presidency in 1824.

1. Churchill Caldom Cambreleng (1786–1862) was a New York City congressman.

From Thomas Rigdon et al.

Columbus, Jan. 1831.

To his excellency ANDREW JACKSON, *President of the United States.*

The undersigned, with their fellow citizens of Ohio, have seen with much satisfaction the administration of the general government restored to correct constitutional principles. Your course as the chief magistrate of the nation, observant of those principles, and firm in adherence to them, we assure you is approved by a majority of the people of Ohio, although accident has given a different appearance.[1]

But it is not sufficient for your own glory, or the permanent interest of our common country, that the administration of the general government should, through your agency, have been restored to soundness in principle, it is necessary that the salutary direction now given, should be continued, that the blessings of our free institutions may be fully developed; and to accomplish this, no measure is more important than your *re-election*, because, from no other measure can we calculate to secure all the advantages which have been gained, by the victory achieved; we, therefore, in behalf of the majority of the citizens of Ohio, (whose wishes we believe we represent) solicit you to be again a candidate for the presidency.

Respectfully yours.

(Here follow the names of the fifty two
administration members of the General Assembly.)

Printed, Columbus *Ohio Monitor*, February 24, 1831 (mAJs). *Niles*, April 16 (17-0111). The address was published without signers' names. AJ replied on February 9 (below). Rigdon (1785–1838) was a Baptist minister and state senator of Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

1. In October 1830 Ohio elections, anti-Jacksonian candidates won the governorship, eight of fourteen congressional seats, and a majority in the state legislature.

February

To John Henry Eaton and Samuel C. Stambaugh

*[In 1821 and 1822, prospective emigrant "New York Indians"—Stockbridge, Munsee, Brothertown, Oneida, and St. Regis—concluded compacts under federal auspices with the Menominees and Winnebagoes for lands in the Fox River region of present Wisconsin. The 1822 agreement gave the New York Indians common tenancy of the entire five-million-acre Menominee domain. The Menominees later repudiated it, saying it was unauthorized and gave away too much. In the 1827 Treaty of Butte Des Morts with the U.S., they and the Winnebagoes agreed to refer the dispute for final decision by the president. In June 1830 Jackson appointed a three-man commission to investigate the matter. The commissioners held hearings at Green Bay in August, and on September 20 submitted a compromise proposal allotting about 300,000 acres to the New York Indians. Both Indian parties opposed the settlement and sent delegations to Washington to present their case. Samuel C. Stambaugh (1799–1864), whom Jackson had appointed Indian agent at Green Bay, accompanied the Menominees. On January 20, the New York delegation proposed to Jackson to settle for 858,000 acres, or about 150 acres per person, to be partitioned among their constituent tribes (*SDoc *512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 8–13, 99–103, 123–68, 396–99, Serial 245).]*

Washington City
Feby. 1st. 1831—

To Jno H Eaton Secretary of War & S. C. Stambaugh agent at Green Bay

You are specially authorised & directed, to enter into some amicable arrangement with the Menomanie tribe of Indians now at the City of Washington for a settlement of their dispute with the N York Indians, & to obtain from them such cession of Country as may appear just & reasonable and also such portions of their Country as they may be disposed to cede to the U States Given under my hand—

Andrew Jackson

DS in Eaton's hand, DNA-RG 75 (T494-2). Copy, DNA-RG 46 (17-0398). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, p. 405 (Serial 245).

To John Henry Eaton

Private)

Febry 3rd. 1831

My Dr Sir

The Newyork Indians have this morning been with me. I have told them I have called upon you for a report. That the Menominees protest against any Just claim they have on their nation for any Land. That any contract made, if made at all, was without the consent of their council, & by men unathorised by their nation &c &c, that so soon as I had recd. your report & could arrange matters with the M' Indians I would send for them.

I wish you therefore to enter into an arrangement with the Menomees by way of Treaty—and in an article for the purpose, with a protestandum by the Menominees, "of no obligation on their part to the Newyork Indians by virtue of any sale of land to them, but at the request of their great Father, that they may live in peace with their red brethern the Newyork Indians &c &c" do ~~cede to~~ reserve out of the land ceded in this treaty to the United States, for the use of the Newyork Indians such right as they possess the following boundery towit, (insert the boundery) ~~this~~ being a part of the lands hereby ceded to the United States in the first article of this Treaty, & in full of all demands against any of our people with whom the Newyork Indians claim to have purchased Lands which if made was without authority. Let the full cession made by the Menomines to the United States be first defined, and then the reservation be made to the Newyork Indians as above stated, and all the reservation for the Brother Town Indians & Newyork, be located on the west or north side of the river, reserving the other for the United States. The improvements of the Brother Towns to be paid for as an act of justice to them. I pray you my Dr Sir to have this attended to forthwith—you and Mr Stambaugh can arrange this to day, so that on Saturday we can have it fully executed & shewn to the Newyork indians. Have some persons present to Testify to the protestation of the M. chiefs, that the Newyork Indians have no rightful claim under a purchase from a council of their nation or any person duly authorised by it. I wish you to make this arrangement with care & circumspection, so that no charge of unfairness can be justly ascribed to us—& in the reservation for the Newyork Indians give them the amount within the boundery on the map, but all on the north side of the river paying no respect to any claims of whitemen on that side of the river. yours respectfully.

Andrew Jackson

P.S. I write in great haste with many interruptions A. J

ALS, The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History (mAJs; 17-0416). Eaton and Stambaugh concluded a treaty with the Menominees on February 8, by which the Menominees ceded to the U.S. all lands south and east of Fox River and Lake Winnebago and defined the boundaries of their domain to the north and west. Protesting any claim or obligation upon this domain to the New York Indians as invalid, "yet, at the solicitation of their Great Father, the President of the United States, and as an evidence of their love and veneration for him," they ceded to the U.S. a tract of about 500,000 acres within it for the New York Indians, for which the U.S. was to pay them $20,000. The New York Indians were to settle there within three years, with the lands to be apportioned among their constituent tribes at a maximum ratio of 100 acres per person and any excess to revert to the U.S. The treaty also pledged the U.S. to furnish the Menominees with houses, tools, clothing, provisions, mills, schools, livestock, and instruction in agriculture and housewifery. A supplementary article, signed February 17, canceled the acreage cap and emigration time limit for the New York Indians, leaving both to the president's discretion (*Indian Treaties*, 2:319–25). On February 23, Jackson submitted the treaty to the Senate, reporting that the New York Indians refused to accept it and that satisfying their demands was now in Congress's hands. The Senate approved the treaty on June 25, 1832, after amending it to give three townships (69,120 acres) to the New York Indians east of Lake Winnebago and to redraw the boundaries of their 500,000-acre reservation to the northwest. The Menominees rejected the redrawing, and a new treaty with a redefined boundary to which all parties assented was signed at Green Bay in October 1832.

From Robert Butler

Confidential

Lake Jackson February 3d. 1831.

My Dear Sir,

I received your letter of the 1st. of December in due course of mail, and I must confess that I have seldom in my life been more astonishd. than to find who was the wier worker behind the scenes in the Seminole afair—do you remember what I told you of him on my return from Washington in 1819, I then said, "He was the most ambitious and dangerous man in the Nation"[1]—I have seen this subject hinted at in the Courier & Enquirer of new york and should like to have something of its history. You mention a toast drank or given by Genl. C. and remark upon it—*This old and intimate friend of ours* leaves this for Washington by the mail which takes this letter. The subject of your recent opinions with regard to him have been a source of great anxiety to my mind; and I must claim it as a mark of your friendship, *nay your justice*, (which has never been appealed to in vain) that you have an interview with him, and dispassionately talk over all matters that may be between you; If he does not do away every impression unfaverable to him, then let him suffer under yr. opinion but I conjure you not to throw away the friendship of a man than whom for you; no other would have gone, or would now go farther to serve and protect you than him.[2] Remember also he is a Mason of high Order, and has caved out, a standing and reputation after the fashion of yourself, which has superadded so much to your own highly elevated character.

The apostle said "strike but hear."[3] I say *hear before you strike*—your ear my be abused with regard to him—we live in the days of slander, and who is free from its odious mantle. I have spoken to Genl. Call *so far*; as to understand that an interview with you on the subject will be very satisfactory; then I pray, you will ask it of him; and if the result does not smooth a wrinkl on your brow, I never will again prophecy. My family are all well and unite in love to you. My Rachel has received the token of melancholy remembrance of your sainted wife. I remain in the bond of Faith, Hope, & Charity.[4] Yours ever & truly

Robert Butler

[Endorsed by AJ:] Col Butler confidential—on the subject of the Seminole War & Genl Call—

ALS, DLC (39).

1. Butler, then AJ's adjutant general, had gone to Washington in November 1818 and testified before the Senate committee investigating the Seminole campaign, returning to Nashville in April 1819. The "wier worker" was John C. Calhoun.

2. Richard Keith Call (1792–1862), now of Tallahassee, was AJ's former military aide and longtime friend. He and AJ had quarreled in 1829 over the Eaton affair.

3. A variant from Plutarch's "Life of Themistocles," spoken by the Athenian statesman to Eurybiades of Sparta.

4. 1 Corinthians 13:13. Butler's wife, Rachel Hays Butler (1786–1852), was Rachel Jackson's niece.

From James Alexander Hamilton

[Word of the Seminole controversy between Jackson and John C. Calhoun had become public by the new year and was followed by speculation that Calhoun would publish their correspondence. James Alexander Hamilton (1788–1878), a son of Alexander Hamilton, was U.S. district attorney in New York and a confidential advisor to Jackson. He had also played a pivotal part in eliciting William H. Crawford's accusations against Calhoun in 1828 and conveying them to Jackson in 1830.]

New York, February 3, 1831.

My Dear Sir:

I had the pleasure to-day to receive a letter from our friend Major Lewis, in a P. S. to which he informs me in relation to the recent correspondence between you and the Vice-President that you had from the solicitations of the friends of both parties promised to bury the affair in oblivion, provided the other party will act in good faith. This disposition of the matter has given rise to difficult questions, as to what I ought to do in relation to the charges in these letters, and recently repeated in the public prints of intrigues and mischief-making, in which I am said to have

participated.[1] I wish to submit my views to you, in order that you may advise me as to my course. When you first showed the letters to me, I intimated a question whether I ought not to write to Mr. Calhoun. I was not then anxious on the subject, because I foresaw that the letters must become public, and that I should then have an opportunity to do myself and another justice. More recently, and after it was understood that the Vice-President intended to publish, I had collected the documents necessary to explain my participation in the matter, and was prepared to make such a publication (although, as I stated to Lewis, I would with great reluctance go into the public prints), as would show that the charge was groundless. My publication was then contemplated to be an answer to his letter to you, when that letter should be made public, as it was shortly expected to be. That expectation is now destroyed, and thus arise the difficulties of my situation. Mr. Calhoun has made the charges in the letter to you. A copy of that letter has been sent by you to Mr. Crawford, and has been seen by Mr. Forsyth.[2] Mr. Calhoun has shown the correspondence to his friends, and may have extended it far and wide. I cannot extend my denial and explanation as far as the charge has gone without publication; and if I do so the step will almost unavoidably involve the development of the whole matter, expose me to the further charge of having made the publication with mischievous intentions, and you, perhaps, as my knowledge of what he has written is derived from you, with having acquiesced in a publication by me for the purpose of getting the whole subject before the public. Another question may be made which is, whether your promise to bury, &c., ought not to bind your friends and control their conduct. The subject is full of difficulty; and notwithstanding the solicitude I must necessarily feel on this subject, I trust I am too sensible of the duties I owe to my friends, and particularly to you, not to be willing to take some risk of loss or to make a positive sacrifice rather than to expose them to injury by inferences that are illogical, unfair, and wholly unfounded. I have given you in this letter, written on the spur of the occasion, my first impressions, without having taken any decision, or even permitted myself to indulge a wish on the subject. And thus I determine to remain until I am advised by you, or shall have fully and dispassionately deliberated upon the subject.

With the truest attachment, I remain, yours, &c.

Printed, *Reminiscences of James A. Hamilton* (New York, 1869), pp. 195–96 (17-0418). Calhoun published the Seminole correspondence on February 17. Hamilton published a response on February 24, and wrote AJ about it the same day (below).

1. On January 29, 1828, Hamilton had written John Forsyth (1780–1841), then governor of Georgia, asking him to ask Crawford whether Monroe's Cabinet had considered arresting and trying AJ for his conduct of the Seminole campaign. Forsyth replied to Hamilton on February 8, relaying Crawford's charge that Calhoun had proposed and advocated it. On April 16, 1830, more than two years later, Forsyth, now a U.S. senator, sent that letter to Crawford and asked him to confirm its accuracy. Crawford replied to Forsyth on April 30, Forsyth showed the reply to AJ on May 12, and on May 13 AJ confronted Calhoun, enclosing copies of the correspondence but with Hamilton's name blanked out.

In his May 29 reply to AJ, Calhoun protested that the omission of names disguised "the contrivers of this plot" and thus crippled his defense. On June 22, he again asked AJ for the information necessary to unveil "the origin and object, of what I firmly believe to be a base political intrigue." On July 19, AJ acknowledged to Calhoun that Forsyth's April 16 query to Crawford had been made at AJ's own behest, conveyed to Forsyth through Hamilton (*Jackson Papers*, 8:319, 391, 434).

2. This was Calhoun's May 29, 1830, letter to AJ.

From John Overton

Travellers Rest 3d Feby 1831

My Dear Genl

Since my last I have seen Mr. Crawfords letter to Mr Calhoun respecting the Seminole affair[1]

It is written with talent, point, and ability. You may safely leave him in the hands of Crawford, which is not an unpleasant affair, as they were opposed to you. Let them worry & fight & quarrel it out, keeping yourself at a distance from both. Your determination, fixedly, to place yourself on the defensive, is certainly correct. And were I in your place, but one earthly event, should remove me from that position. Viz the Union of Mr. Monroe, with Mr Calhoun evidenced by his (Monroe's) affirmative, positive assertion denying the rect. of your Confidential letter, or making it known to his Cabinet, or other person, after he did receive it[2]

Crawford has now Calhoun pretty well on his beams end; which God knows, he must most poignantly feel. And hence you may look for his reaching & throwing himself about, by intrigue and small management, among his followers, women, children &c to lay hold of something, on which he can right himself

Never mind it—let it pass with a smile, for if a man, will, by his indirect and immoral conduct lay the foundation of his own ruin *[if not]* too insignificant, he will always find enemies enough to crush the superstructure

If Monroe has not entirely lost ordinary prudence, he will not come out in Calhouns favor, and however favorably inclined, if he says anything, it will be that in his present state of health &c he has forgotten, or cannot relate any part of the affair with confidence. I hope the man will take such a course as this, or tell the truth, which would be far preferable, if he recollects

It is my earnest wish he should, both on his, and your account, as it will be with pain I shall witness the necessity for making a single move further than you have done—Crawford, as he says has already retired, and but let them alone, Calhoun will soon have to take the same step; accompanied with perfect *silence* on your part. Both your letters to Calhoun, I have seen, which leaves you in an elevated position; which should not be lightly jeopardized.[3] It seems to me, that should Monroe, not recollect, I should not interfere with these combatants

Thus my friend I have given my opinion frankly—take it for what it is worth

As to Mr Van Buren, it will in all probability be necessary through the News papers (beginning in some distant one) to say something in his behalf; as I verily believe, he knew nothing about the af[fair.] I have intimated to Hall in the course of a week or two, to throw out some hints of this kind.[4]

There is not a man in the U.S with respect to whom, my opinion has more changed. I once viewed him Calhoun among the highest order of men. The moment your first message, or rather your inaugural address came out—in both of which, if I recollect right, you strongly recommended a change in the mode of electing Presi't & V. President, I expected Mr Calhoun & his friends would with avidity lay hold of it as the only road he could travel to the presidency—but instead of this, I saw the man was only fit for nibbling—small matters in his situation—such as his friends support U.S. Bank; intriguing to divide your cabinet &c[5]

Present me to respectfully to all friends—My health if slowly returning —*apprapos* It was with pleasurable feelings I recd yours, & Mr V. Burens flattering notice of my consciencious limited powers—Experience God knows, both of men & things I have much—of literature but little; far inferior to what you both immagine; but such as I am you have always, and will I hope, continue to know me

When I wrote you last I was just able to set up, but perfectly recollected facts, which I stated to you—but not dates—Should you stand in need of my statement which I hope you will not, I desire that you will not use the letter written

Please remind me of dates

I can only state to you my present impression. Viz that you recd your *Carte Blanche* to prosecute the Seminole War, in 1817 this you shewd me, soon after receiving it on which I gave you my opinion, to be cautious &c And my present impression is, that you shewed me a Copy of your confidential letter to Mr Monroe, with an ans. thro' Jno Ray—after you returned from the Seminole Campaign. I am certain however that when I set about defending you, not only in pamphlet form but in the news papers (Impartial Review) I was in possession of all the facts.[6] I repeat, as to the informal order of Monroe through Ray, practised by all Govts on delicate occasions—that it is peculiarly delicate in a Gov. like ours (Republican); and I earnestly hope you may not be under any necessity to put pen to paper on the subject again[.] As usual

Jno: Overton

ALS, THi (17-0421).

1. This was Crawford's scathing letter of October 2, 1830, which accused Calhoun of mounting quibbles and falsehoods in his May 29 letter to AJ in a vain and pathetic effort to exculpate his Cabinet treachery in 1818.

2. Monroe's May 19, 1830, letter to Calhoun, enclosed by Calhoun to AJ on May 29, acknowledged receiving AJ's confidential letter of January 6, 1818, but denied discussing it or bringing it before the Cabinet (*Calhoun Papers*, 11:165).

3. These were probably AJ's first two letters to Calhoun, of May 13 and 30, 1830.

4. Allen A. Hall (c1803–1867) edited the *Nashville Republican*.

5. In his first and second annual messages to Congress, though not in his inaugural address, AJ had called for a constitutional amendment to replace the electoral college with a direct popular election of president and vice president for a single term of four or six years (Richardson, 2:447–48, 518–19).

6. Under the pen name Aristides, Overton published pieces in the *Nashville Whig* on September 19 and 26, 1818, upholding AJ's conduct in Florida under the law of nations and rules of war. As "A Citizen of the State of Tennessee" he expanded these arguments in an 1819 pamphlet, *A Vindication of the Measures of the President and his Commanding Generals, in the Commencement and Termination of the Seminole War*.

From Jacob M. Wise et al.

[Under the heading "Re-Election of the President," the Washington Globe *announced on January 22 that* "we are permitted to say, that if it should be the will of the nation to call on the President to serve a second term in the Chief Magistracy, he will not decline the summons."*]*

HARRISBURG, 3d Feb. 1830.

SIR—

The undersigned, members of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, having convened in order to express their opinions in relation to the next Presidential election, beg leave to communicate their entire satisfaction and continued confidence in your administration of the Government of this Union. They believe that it is conducted upon principles of sound policy, and which are eminently calculated to promote the interests and harmony of the confederacy. They are therefore highly gratified that you have again consented to yield to the anxious solicitations of your fellow citizens in becoming a candidate for re-election. No event could tend so much to the Union and harmony of the great Republican party of these United States; and consequently to the best interests of our beloved country. In speaking these sentiments we are confident, that we are only giving utterance to the feelings of the democratic citizens of Pennsylvania.

We are, very respectfully, your fellow citizens,

Jacob M. Wise,
W. G. Scott,
Frederick Smith,
Henry Simpson,
Thomas Ringland,

[Seventy-six more names follow.]

Printed, Harrisburg *Reporter and Democratic Herald*, February 8, 1831 (mAJs). *US Telegraph*, February 9, 1831 (17-0430); *Niles*, February 19. Reprintings corrected the 1830 date to 1831. Jacob M. Wise (1795–1854), Thomas Ringland (d.1869), and William G. Scott were state senators. Frederick Smith (1794–1859) and Henry Simpson (1790–1868) were state representatives. AJ replied on February 9 (below).

On February 21, the Harrisburg *Pennsylvania Intelligencer* charged that this address had been prompted from the White House in a letter sent by AJ Donelson and franked by AJ. To refute the charge, Donelson published, in the *Telegraph* of March 3, a letter he had sent Pennsylvania state senator Solomon G. Krepps on January 29, approving but not instigating the latter's plan for a committee of legislators to solicit AJ to stand for reelection (17-0375). Donelson said in the *Telegraph* that he had written the letter without consulting AJ, "and, if it was franked by the president, that he did not know any thing of its contents." This publication was itself much criticized in the opposition press, in part for its apparent inadvertent admission of having misused the president's frank. AJ commented to Donelson on it on March 24 (below).

From Carter Beverley

Virginia, Essex County,
Lloyd's Pt. Office
4th. Febuay 1831.

Dear Sir

My much valued Friend Robert S: Garnett esqre. of Tappahannk., having specially rode up yesterday evening to obtain from me a full statement of a leading circumstance of his political life, involving him in a great deal of anxiety of mind & fatigue of body; I have thought it fairly due to him to gratify his full desire. He had three or four years ago hear'd me speak of at his own house, an incident that transpir'd at the Hermitage in March 1827, when I was there. It seem'd to bear so well & so importantly upon his case; that I ventur'd to incorporate it (in a letter I address'd to him) wh. some other substantial matter. It appears that from a loss of his memory of things of that time, he is plac'd in the painful dilemma of resorting to those wh. whom he was most intimate at the period, to bring him out of the difficulty. Mr. Crawford it seems has denied what he told Mr. Garnett, or said to him about you, as to the Seminole war.[1] Mr. Garnett communicated the entire matter to me, and I spoke of it variously. It is at this distant day resum'd, & he is made to bear the disgraceful imputation of having slander'd Mr. Crawford wh. a view to destroy his popularity. In speaking of the occurrence at your House, I told Mr. Garnett that I wish'd ~~he would~~ him to omit it, as it might be disagreeable to you to have your name brought in at all—he seem'd to believe that it was all important to clear up his case, & that it could not possibly injure you in any way. Anxious to ease his mind, & to clear up his character from the odious charge of falsehood, I could not with-hold the circumstance from his service. I do not see that it can in any way do you injury, or create any seriously painful censation in your mind. I send you a faithful copy of what I have written him, so as to satisfy you, and to prevent any undue advantage being made of the circumstance. I hope the pureness of the motive that has actuated me to the act, will be in your mind an abundant apology for my doing it.

I am well aware of the political strife in motion at this time in & about the Capital of our country. I have hear'd a great deal of the floating circumstances, but have really given very little credit to any of 'em. I see that Mr. Calhoun the Vice President, *complains heavily*. I hear occasionally that your health & spirits are both good, but that the occupations of your station are extremely arduous & unceasing. Your administration is justly most popular; and the people are both grateful, & anxious that you should continue to serve them the next term. My own health is still very precarious, & variable. I am Dear Sir wh. feelings & sentiments of regard Yrs. Faithfully

Carter Beverley

ALS, DLC (39). Beverley (1774–1844) was a prominent Virginian. Robert Selden Garnett (1789–1840) had been a Virginia congressman from 1817 to 1827. He wrote AJ on February 7 (below).

1. On December 29, 1830, the Charleston *Courier* reported the arrival in Washington of a letter from Crawford claiming that Calhoun alone in Monroe's Cabinet had favored disciplining AJ over the Seminole campaign. Garnett saw the story in the January 5, 1831, Richmond *Constitutional Whig* and wrote Calhoun about it on January 12, saying that Crawford had told him at the time that "General Jackson ought to be condemned." Garnett told Calhoun he had recorded Crawford's expression in his journal at the time and "repeated it frequently" since (*Calhoun Papers*, 11:293–94).

[Enclosure: Beverley to Robert Selden Garnett]

Virginia, Essex County
4th. Febury 1831.

Dr. Sir

Desirous of complying wh. your request to reduce to writing a communication made by you to me some years ago at your own house, I have in the course of the last evening & night, endeavor'd to tax my memory wh. it as critically as possible.

My recollection is pretty distinctly brought to it; and it is greatly strengthen'd by some circumstances that have at different periods incidentally grown out of it. It was in the winter of the memorable Caucus held at Washington by the Friends of Mr. Crawford. You had been call'd home to Virga. by the illness of one of your children—we met the day after; and among a variety of political topics of discussion between us, I remark'd that the Friends of Mr. Crawford in your district began to express considerable disapprobation of your recent movement at Washington agt. him.[1] You at once said to me that you had very abundant cause of justification for the course you had taken: That a short time prior to it, you had fallen in at the President's wh. Colo. John Taylor of Caroline, then a Senator; who propounded to Mr. Monroe a question as regarded the part taken in the executive Cabinet by Mr. Crawford concerning Genl. Jackson's military Seminole operations.[2] Mr. Monroe express'd to Colo. Taylor infinite surprise at the question; and remark'd, that he was utterly astonish'd why any doubt existed about it: For, said he, so great was the

public clamor against the Genell. at the time, as to occasion me to call a meeting of the Cabinet, to ascertain the most proper course to be taken, so as to pare down in some degree, the seeming public excitement agt. him. I well recollect said he, that Mr. Crawford early express'd himself, that right or wrong, it was absolutely necessary to arrest the progress of public opinion. And he mov'd to adopt correspondent measures. You at once observ'd to Mr. Monroe that you were completely amaz'd at what he had just said: That until that moment you had always consider'd, & absolutely believ'd Mr. Crawford to have been steadily oppos'd to Genl. Jackson; for, you distinctly remark'd, that pending the Seminole debate in the House of Representatives, you met wh. Mr. Crawford, and he accosted you, by saying, well Mr. Garnett what are you about in Congress, still debating the odious Seminole question.[3] It is a scandal upon the Country, and Genl. Jackson ought to be denounc'd by the nation. The remark greatly irritated you, and you turn'd upon your heel, told him you thought otherwise, & should certainly support him. You return'd to Congress two days after, and I think we met no more until the succeeding autumn. During the summer however, an occurrence took place in Loudon County in our state, which render'd it quite necessary for me to write to you. I happen'd to dine wh. an Old Friend Doctor Selden; and in a large Company of Gentlemen after dinner, Mr. Crawford's chance for the presidency being the topic of conversation among us, I mention'd what you had the winter before told me of him, and that I thought it was operating heavily agt. him. The Company appear'd to be surpris'd, and many of them were concern'd to hear it: Mr. Willson Selden, the Doctor's Son, was one of the company; and he left home the day after for Washington. Doctr. Syme, who married his Aunt, was inform'd by Mr. Selden of what I had the day before said at his Father's table.[4] The Doctor at once express'd disbelief of it; and being Mr. Crawford's Family physician at the time, and Mr. C. in bad health, he that evening mention'd it to him in all its details. Mr. Crawford denied the whole of Mr. Monroe's representation; and said that it was an infamous calumny, a black hearted lie: That he never had been friendly to Genl. Jackson upon the subject, but was uniformly oppos'd to him. He requested Mr. Syme to bear to Mr. Selden his reply, wh. a wish that it should be communicated to me. Mr. Selden return'd to his Father's the day after, sent for me, and mention'd it to me. I immediately wrote to you to prepare you for the event; for that you would be call'd upon to corroborate my statement; as I expected to be call'd on myself by Mr. Crawford to authenticate what I had said. The thing however died away, and I hear'd nothing more of it, until I visited Genl. Jackson in March *1827* at his residence in Tenessee.[5]

The subject was there incidentally brought up by me. It grew out of the Genl. having mention'd to his Company in the course of conversation, how much he had been slander'd; and that in a newspaper publish'd at Milledgeville in Georgia, a pr. appear'd agt. him that bore in itself such

strong marks of deep premeditated slander, as induc'd him to enquire into its authenticity. He therefore wrote to a Friend of his near there, who call'd on the printer for the author. The result was, that it was charg'd upon Mr. Cobb & Mr. Crawford: one & both. That when the answer was recd. by him, Mr. Monroe (then on his southern tour,) had just reach'd his house; and he, after reading the letter, handed it immediately over to Mr. Monroe to answer for the correctness of the charge.[6] Mr. Monroe rose from his chair wh. a good deal of agitation, and assur'd the General before the whole company, that the entire matter was utterly false: That the Cabinet had all been for, & not agt. the Genl.: Genl. Jackson replied to Mr. Monroe that it was a strange circumstance altogether; and that it behoov'd him Mr. M, even then, to look well into it; for, he thought the blow was aim'd more immediately at the president, than at him. And here it was, that my imagination became completely arous'd, and I could not resist the feelings that propel'd me so strongly to mention what you had told me, and what Mr. Crawford had told Doctr. Syme. Genl. Jackson was I thought exceedingly astonish'd. I then remark'd to him my extreme wonder, why Mr. Monroe had omitted to inform him of the occurrence at his House between Colo. John Taylor & himself, and between him & Mr. Garnett. The Genl. replied that he never even hinted of it to him, wh. really astonish'd him also.

This closes the whole narrative. I have endeavor'd I assure you to be scrupulously exact; because, I presume, from what you told me, it is for the public eye, & will be subjected in all probability to scrutiny. I lament but one circumstance in it; and that is, the necessity that forc'd me to bring in, the incident that took place at the Hermitage. But *it* goes so much to strengthen what pass'd between Mr. Crawford & yourself, as seem'd to make it completely incumbent upon me to develope the circumstance. I cannot perceive that it can by any possibility have the smallest tendency to injure Genl. Jackson in any way. He spoke of the Milledge-Ville occurrence, as he did of every other, before a considerable company of Gentlemen, many of 'em strangers to him, without the smallest hesitation whatever. He mention'd it as one, link of the chain of invidious slander disseminated agt. him—and I really thought it to be fairly due to him that I should represent at full length your communication to me, and Mr. Crawford's to Doctr. Syme. They were intimately connected & could not be wh. justice omitted.

I have thought it due to Genl. Jackson to inform him of this statement, that nothing may appear from me as going to give any undue advantage over him. I am not aware how far it may be us'd, perhaps so as to create in him some displeasure. I conceiv'd it due to you to comply wh. your desire, and thereby to exculpate you from the denial that has been given to your assertions. This I have mention'd to genl. Jackson as my only moving motive.

I design in no wise to engage in any thing like the political strifes of the day. I have had abundance of it to last me, were I to live even a century to come.

I hope it will prove serviceable to you. You will I trust not diminish my letter in any way; for, I have snt. Genl. Jackson by this mail a complete copy of it, so as to guard myself thoroughly agt. the idea of intending any injury to him. I am Dr. Sir, wh. regard yrs. Sincerely

Carter Beverley

[Endorsed by Beverley:] original—a copy sent him by mail.

[Envelope endorsed by AJ:] This proves that Mr. Monroe stated that all his Cabinet were united, "that Genl Jackson should not be censured." how does this correspond with Mr Calhouns admission A. J.

ALS copy, DLC (39). *Calhoun Papers*, 11:323–26.

1. On February 14, 1824, a congressional caucus called by Crawford supporters met in Washington and nominated him for president by 64 votes out of 68 cast. A week before, 24 senators and congressmen, including prominent backers of rival candidates John Q. Adams, Henry Clay, and Jackson, had published an address in the *National Intelligencer* opposing the caucus and predicting that at least 181 of Congress's 261 total members would not attend. Garnett was the lone signer from Virginia, where Crawford's candidacy was popular.

2. Celebrated author John Taylor (1753–1824) had been a Virginia senator in 1822–24.

3. The House of Representatives debated resolutions condemning AJ's Seminole campaign in January and February 1819.

4. This dinner would have been in the summer of 1824. Dr. Wilson Cary Selden (1761–1835) of Loudoun County, Va., had been married to Eleanor Love (1772–1816), and their son was Wilson Cary Selden Jr. (1796–1845). Young Selden's aunt was his mother's sister, Harriet Love Sim (d. 1831), wife of Washington physician Thomas Sim (1770–1832).

5. Beverley visited the Hermitage in March 1827.

6. Georgia congressman Thomas Willis Cobb (1784–1830), a Crawford ally, led the drive to censure AJ in the House of Representatives in early 1819, introducing resolutions that declared his seizure of the Spanish posts "contrary to orders, and in violation of the Constitution" (*Annals of Congress*, 15th Cong., 2d sess., p. 588). On August 25, 1818, the Milledgeville *Georgia Journal*, edited by brothers Seaton Grantland (1782–1864) and Fleming Grantland (c1790–1819), reported a rumor that Monroe's Cabinet had been "*equally divided*, as to the propriety of *arresting* General Jackson for disobedience of orders in his Florida expedition." On May 24, 1819, Georgia politician John Clark (1766–1832), to whom AJ had applied for evidence of Crawford's "depravity of heart," wrote AJ that Crawford and Cobb had met in Milledgeville with Fleming Grantland in August 1818 a few days before the *Journal* publication (Bassett, 2:416–18). Later, on November 2, 1819, Clark sent AJ a deposition from a Dr. Thomas Moore, who had been with Fleming Grantland during Crawford and Cobb's Milledgeville visit and confirmed that the information about the Cabinet had come from them (DLC-28). Monroe reached the Hermitage on his southern tour on June 5, 1819.

From Robert Young Hayne

Washington 4th. Feby. 1831.

Dear Sir:

I understand from Col. Drayton, that you have informed him, that *it has been objected* to the appointment of Mr. Finley to the office of District Attorney for So. Ca. that he entertains political principles which ought to prevent him from holding an office under the U.S.[1] Not being informed of the quarter from whence this suggestion comes, I think it due to all parties, that you should be made acquainted with the fact that in presenting the name of Mr Finley for the office in question, accompanied by a recommendation of *seven* out of *eleven* of the South Carolina Delegation, we were not influenced by party considerations, but by his distinguished talents and high character. In recommending this Gentleman we did not speak of one with whose character, talents and principles we were unacquainted, but who was well known to us, and for whose fidelity in the performance of the duties of the office we were perfectly willing to pledge ourselves.[2]

That Mr. Finley is a distinguished member of the State Rights party of So. Ca. is true, that he believes with Thos. Jefferson that a State acting in its sovereign capacity has a right to interpose for the preservation of its rights reserved under the Constitution I have no doubt, for these are principles common to the party to which he belongs, as may be seen in the proceedings of the Legislature of So Ca. at their last session.[3] But that he would impair the Constitutional powers of the federal government is I am persuaded wholly without foundation. It is, I trust, not to be apprehended, that in the discharge of his official duties as District Attorney he would ever be called upon, to sacrifice his obligations to the State of which he is a Citizen, and should such an unhappy state of things ever arise, I undertake to pledge myself that Mr. F. would not remain for an hour in any office the duties of which he could not conscientiously discharge. Unless therefore it should be considered that *a crisis now exists*, in the relations between South Carolina and the federal government, which forbids the appointment to office of any member of the State Rights party, I must consider the objections to Mr. Finley as altogether groundless. Believing that attempts will on all occasions hereafter be made, to confine appointments to members of the party opposed to that of which Mr. F. is a member, I take the opportunity presented by this case, of informing myself whether it is to be considered as an insuperable objection to any Gentleman's receiving an appointment to office under the federal government, that he belongs to the State Rights party of So Ca. As the objection which has been raised should it prevail, would apply to a majority of the people of that State I am induced most respectfully to request to be informed what weight it will be considered as entitled to in the estimation of the President. I will only add that if the Executive of the U.S. should act on the principle that a *crisis*

now exists in the relations between So. Ca. and the federal government which renders it improper to appoint to a federal office any member of the party now in power in that State, such a rule of action will be the very opposite of that, which has governed the conduct of the State Rights party of that State, who during the last Session of the Legislature elevated to the Bench of their Appeal Court, a Gentleman whose political opinions were known to be opposed to their own, and who selected as their *Attorney General* a Gentleman not only opposed to nullification and convention, but who acknowledges the supremacy of the federal Judiciary over the Judicial tribunals of the State.[4] In these acts South Carolina has shewn that in appointments to these high offices she disregards the party distinctions which ~~prevail~~ now exist in that State, and I should deeply regret, that they should prevail in appointments to be made by the federal government[.] I am with great respect your most obt. srvt.

Robt. Y. Hayne

ALS, DLC (39). AL draft, Kaller Historical Documents (mAJs). AJ replied on February 8 (below). Hayne (1791–1839) was U.S. senator from South Carolina, and William Peronneau Finley (1803–1876) was a Charleston lawyer.

1. William Drayton (1776–1846) was a South Carolina congressman.

2. Besides Hayne, congressmen Robert W. Barnwell, William D. Martin, George McDuffie, and William T. Nuckolls were identified in press reports as recommending Finley.

3. In December 1830, a bill to call a state convention to adopt remedies against Congress's "unconstitutional legislation" won a majority, but not the necessary two-thirds, in both houses of the South Carolina legislature.

4. In November 1830 the legislature elected Unionists Hugh Swinton Legaré (1797–1843) as state attorney general and John Belton O'Neall (1793–1863) as appeals court judge.

From John Coffee

Coxes Creek, near Florence A.
6th. Feby. 1831.

Dear Genl.

On yesterday I had the pleasure to receive yours of the 19th. Ult. enclosing a letter to you from the Commr. of the Genl. Land office. I am gratified to see that my accounts are correctly understood by that officer, I had been fearful that he would not properly understand them, his having so lately come into office, and seeing a balance against me on the books, he might have considered me a defaulter, whereas I had always been ready and willing to pay the amount in my hands when ever directed to do so.[1] His remark that it is expedient to let it remain here, and be ready to meet the contingent expences, is certainly correct, for each quarter year presents accounts of payments made out of that fund, and I believe there is more due at this time, to deputy surveyors south of the 31° of No. Latitude than is in my hands, and will be payable to them as soon as I receive the returns

from the Principal deputy Surveyor of that district—and still there will be more work to be done in that district this year, as I believe he has not yet compleated the public survey, and the most of the private surveys of that country are yet unpaid for, therefore it is necessary to have some funds at command to meet emergencies as they occur—

I recd. a letter from Col. Ben Reynolds the accompanying Agent with the party of exploring Chickasaws, dated on the south fork of the Canadian fork of Arkansas river. I enclosed his letter Majr. Eaton for his and your information, I expect you have recd. it. You will notice his remark, that the Choctaw Country is very fine, so far as they had then traveled in it, and he had no doubt but there was plenty for both nations, if they could find means to get it, but which he was at a loss to devise a plan to obtain it. This I think is a very important part now to be performed, and which I named to Major Eaton in my letter to him, suggesting the propriety of adapting the course to be pursued as soon as the two parties return home from their present tour, which I don't think will be, before the Spring, as the season has been so cold that they cannot travel and see the country to advantage untill the winter breaks up and the face of the country shall present a more cheering aspect—[2]

You say that you expect Emily, and Mary Eastin will go on to Washington, in March or April, and you kindly invite me to come with them, and bring my daughter Mary also along. That pleasure would be a great treat to me, to see and spend a few days with you, particularly after the hurry and bustle of Congress is over, and you shall have some leisure from your toil and labours of the Session, and I will try and endeavour to do so if possible, indeed I am under a promise to Emily that I would go on with her, in the event she remained at home, and Andrew accompanied you to the city and remained during the Session of Congress, provided she wished me to do so in the spring. I shall write her today on the subject, and when I get her answer, I will then advise you of the result, and the probable time of our departure. If I go I will certainly carry my daughter Mary, and I think it more than probable that Mary Mc.Lemore will also accompany the other girls, even if her father does not go along, but he will go if at home at the time we start. I shall also write him today, but I have heard lately that he is about to start to New Orleans, and in that event he cannot, or may not have returned, but if we do not start untill in April he may get back in time to go. I hope things are going on better than last winter, and that there is prospects of harmony in your Cabinet, and in your family—how I shall rejoice to see our young friends untrammeled, from the influence and feelings of persons, who they think are theirs and your friends, whilst in reality they care nothing for them, further than to answer their own purposes, they cannot have any other, than the best feelings towards you, but they have heard bad counsel, and under a mistaken notion of endangering their own honor, they have fallen into the opposite extreme, before they knew or suspected it—but I fondly hope

that in future all will be well, although I have not heard one word on that subject since I saw you. I enclose a letter to Andrew which I will thank you to hand to him—[3]

I see lately from the proceedings in Congress, that the opposition has become very restless, and begin to shew their angry feelings, but I hope the friends of Govt. and of good order, will keep a steady course, and will not suffer those fire brands to turn them aside from their duty, nor permit themselves to be drawn into long speeches, such as occupied last Congress, all the hopes of the opposition now is to distract the majority in Congress and thereby prevent them from proceeding with the business of Legislation in support of your administration. It really seems that they, or at least some of them, would rather destroy the Govt. than acknowledge their error, or see you prosper, but will have to acknowledge it, as much as they seem to hate it. The dye is cast and they must go down.

You will have heard that Gabl. Moore has been elected senator in place of Col. M.Kinley, he suceeded by his lying, & treating. I am told that he kept his board spread with all kinds of drink, and his table of the best to eat, and said to the members who partook with him, just what seemed best to suit them, if thereby he could procure their votes. When I heard that he denied what he said to me at Franklin I address him a letter calling to his recollection what had passed at the time of our conversation, thinking that he would not deny it, after the election was over, but having lyed in the first instance, he prefered to stand to it, and positively denied it to me in his written answers in a gasconading and insulting language. I am not done with him yet, I must punish or expose him.[4] My family are in common good health. Polley unites with me in love to you. Dr. Genl. your friend

Jno. Coffee

ALS, DLC (39).

1. Elijah Hayward was appointed commissioner of the General Land Office on September 30, 1830, succeeding the late George Graham.

2. Chickasaw agent Benjamin Franklin Reynolds (1788–1843) had escorted the exploring party sent to locate a new Chickasaw homeland in the west. He wrote to Coffee in December 1830 about the prospects for settling the Chickasaws within the Choctaw domain. Coffee forwarded his letter on to Eaton in Washington on February 1 (DNA-RG 75, M234-136).

3. This same day, February 6, Coffee wrote about arrangements for going to Washington in April to both Emily Donelson (Coffee Papers, THi) and AJ Donelson. He urged the latter to try to harmonize with AJ, and to "let nothing but the forfeiture of your sacred honor (which never should be abanded) ever induce you to oppose his views and wishes. In small matters, never mind your own feelings, even when you could wish things otherwise, but rather seek to quiet, and console the mind of your greatest friend in this world" (Donelson Papers, DLC).

4. On December 13, 1830, the Alabama legislature elected governor Gabriel Moore (1785–1845) to the U.S. Senate over incumbent John McKinley (1780–1852). In November, McKinley had published an address to state legislators in which he charged Moore with betraying a pledge he had made to Coffee in August at Franklin, Tenn., not to contest the Senate seat. Moore issued an address denying the charge (Huntsville *Southern Advocate*,

December 11, 1830). Coffee wrote McKinley on December 1 confirming his account and later wrote Moore demanding a correction. Moore replied on January 4, 1831, reaffirming his denial of the pledge and criticizing Coffee's memory, motives, and mode of address.

From Robert Selden Garnett

Tappahannock Feb 7th 1831

My dear Sir

In consequence of a letter I received yesterday from Mr Carter Beverly informing me that he had sent you a copy of a statement which he has made to me concerning a conversation between Mr Crawford & myself, I have thought proper to offer to you the following statement. I have no recollection of several of the details given by Mr Beverly, but with regard to the conversation with Mr Crawford, and also that between Mr Monroe, Col Taylor & myself, so far as relates to the declaration of Mr Monroe that there was no division in the cabinet, my recollection is clear and distinct; & I can be under no mistake. Mr Beverly is also mistaken in saying that I intended his statement for the public eye, as on that subject I gave him no assurance one way or the other. In consequence of his having informed me that when he was in Tennessee, at your house, he had told you of my conversation with Mr Crawford, I addressed a letter to him to enquire whether his recollection of that conversation corresponded with my own. I have conversed with several other gentlemen who heard me repeat it soon after my return from Washington, and they all confirm the statement which I am now about to give you. During the period I refer to, I kept a journal in which I wrote down at night, or the following morning, every thing I had heard or observed in the course of the preceding day which I thought it important to remember. In this case, one day only intervened between the conversation & the record. From this journal I send you the following extract.

"The night before last Col Taylor proposed we should go and see the President, as Everett said he frequently complained of our not coming, though we lived so near. Newton wd. not go because he had to shave & put on a clean shirt. We found him in the drawing room with Hay, Everett, Moore & Findly M. & F. & E soon went out, & so did Hay who was going to Secty Thompsons.[1] The P. then talked very freely about public affairs—gave us an account of the proceedings of the government in relation to the Seminole war. He stated what I have frequently heard before that the cabinet were perfectly agreed that he should not censure Gen: Jackson. It is however well understood that Crawford, out of the cabinet, used his endeavours to have Cobb's resolutions passed; and I could not forbear telling the President, that in conversation with me about Cobbs resolutions, while they were pending, Mr Crawford had said, "Jackson ought to be censured." He expressed surprise, and seemed

to look regret. He says the members of the cabinet are still in harmony among themselves, apparently."

I again say that in this statement, there can be no mistake. I am as certain of it as that I exist and am now writing to you, & I recollect the tone and the emphatic manner in which the speech was made. The truth is, that Clay & Crawford both candidates for the Presidency, and fearing your great popularity with the American people, were anxious to put you down, & thus remove the principal impediment to the gratification of their ambition. This opinion was expressed to me by judge Nelson during the debate on the Seminole war, & I dare say must have occurred to many.[2] Subsequent events have greatly confirmed its correctness.

I sent you a short time since a copy of a letter from Major Lee written while he was at Mahon.[3] I hope that you received it. I remain Dear Sir, with esteem and respect your obedient servant

Robert S Garnett

ALS, DLC (39). *Calhoun Papers*, 11:321–23.

1. These were, respectively, John Taylor, probably Monroe's friend and physician Charles Everett (1767–1848), Virginia congressman Thomas Newton (1768–1847), Monroe's son-in-law George Hay (1765–1830), Virginia congressman Thomas Love Moore (d. 1862), Pennsylvania congressman John Findlay (1766–1838) or his brother, Senator William Findlay (1768–1846), and Secretary of the Navy Smith Thompson (1768–1843). Garnett sent copies of this letter and of Carter Beverley's February 4 letter to him to Calhoun, who acknowledged them on February 12 (*Calhoun Papers*, 11:330–31). Calhoun published the extract from Garnett's journal in the *US Telegraph* on February 17, where it was dated February 1, 1819. However, if accurate, it must have been much later—in early 1823, the only time when these men were all in Congress together.

2. Hugh Nelson (1768–1836) had been a Virginia congressman from 1811 to 1823.

3. Henry Lee (1787–1837), son of Revolutionary hero Henry "Light-Horse Harry" Lee and half-brother of Robert E. Lee, was appointed consul general to Algiers by AJ in 1829 and remained abroad after his unanimous rejection by the Senate in March 1830. He wrote AJ twice in August 1830 from Port Mahon.

To Robert Young Hayne

February 8th 1831—

My Dear Sir

I have read your letter of the 4th. The Gentleman presented by you for the appointment of District atto. is respectably recommended, and the confidence reposed in you is sufficient to induce me to believe that he is, as you represent, fully competant to a fulfilment of the duties of the office. There are others, however, who are also well recommended.

You suggest that I may entertain objections to the appointment of your friend, and that they arise from the consideration that he is of the party in So. Carolina, who assert, & maintain state rights; and express a desire to be informed if this class of your fellow citizens are to be excluded from a fair participation in offices. Permit me to premise, that in appointing

persons to office it is not incumbent on the President to assign the reasons which govern his conduct. To appoint one, and reject another, is by the constitution left to his discretion & if he ers in the former case, the Senate affords a safe guarantee. It is by his acts that he is in this respect to be judged by his constituents. sensible of the propriety of this course, & the importance of its preservation to the salutary action of the executive power, it has been with great dificulty that I have brought myself to depart from it, in the ~~present occasion~~ case under consideration. Its peculiar circumstance and the sincere personal respect & esteem which I entertain for you, induce me to make this explanation for your personal satisfaction.

For the rights of the states no one has a higher regard and respect than myself—none would go farther to maintain them. It is only by maintaining them faithfully, that the Union can be preserved.

But how I ask, is this to be effected? certainly not by conceding to one state authority to declare an act of Congress void, and meet all the consequence & hazard that such a course would produce: far from it; there is a better remedy—one which has heretofore proved successful in the worst of times, & which all admit its power. If Congress, and the Executive, feeling power, and forgetting right, shall overleap the powers the constitution bestows and extend their sanction to laws which the power granted to them does not permit, the remedy is with the people. Not by avowed opposition—not thro open & direct resistance, but thro the more peaceful and reasonable course of submitting the whole matter to them at the elections, and they by their free suffrage at the polls, will always in the end, bring about the repeal of any obnoxious laws which violate the constitution. Such abuses as these cannot be of long duration in our enlightened country where the people rule. Let all contested matters be brought to that tribunal, and it will decree correctly. This is, in general political questions, the only course that should be pursued, and which the constitution contemplates. That a state has the power to nulify the legislative enactments of the general Government I never did believe, nor have I ever understood Mr. Jefferson to hold such an opinion. That ours is a government of laws, and dependant on the will of ~~the~~ a majority, is the true reading of the constitution, the time I hope is far distant when the abuse of power on the part of Congress will be so great as to justify a state to stand forth in open violent resistance. In all republics the voice of a majority must prevail. Consent to this, and act upon it, and harmony will prevail; oppose it, and disagreement, difference and danger will certainly follow, assert that a state may declare acts passed by congress inoperative and void, and revolution with all its attendant evils, in the end, must be looked for, and expected. Compromise, mutual concessions, & friendly forbearence between different interests, & sections, of our happy country must be regarded and nourished by all who desire to perpetuate the blessings we enjoy. These being my ~~religious~~ opinions, religiously entertained, situated as I am, charged with the execution of the laws, and the preserva-

tion of the Union & the constitution, it could not be expected ~~of me~~ that I would select any one to prosecute for a violation of them, who holds that a portion of our revenue laws is not binding, and who would declare that the Union should be disolved rather than these laws should be permitted to be enforced.

I would be highly blamable to appoint any man however well qualified he might be in other respects, attorney for the District whose duty it would be to collect the bonds given for the revenue to be paid to the government, after he had declared the law unconstitutional and that disunion was preferable to submission to them. Mr Findly is represented to me to have expressed himself substantially as I have stated, surely then, if this be true, it could not be expected by any of my friends that I could appoint him attorney to prosecute defaulters under these laws—

When the ground is moreover deliberately taken, that the Bonds given to the government for revenue are void and that their collection may be successfully resisted, could I be regarded as in the faithful discharge of my duty to select for an office to which the collection of such bonds will belong a gentleman however respectable whose honest opinions are opposed to the liability which it might become his offical duty to enforce? I think not, & in coming to that conclusion I am not influenced by any want of confidence in the personal character of Mr Findley, and much less by any unfriendly feelings toward him or his supporters. I ~~so~~ understand that Mr Findleys opinions are of that character, and so believe. I think I shall better perform my duty by selecting one whose views upon this subject are more in unison with the interests of the Government.

you ask me whether it is to be considered as an insuperable objection to any Gentleman receiving an appointment to office under the Federal Government that he belongs to the State right party in South Carolina; This is a broad question and goes far beyond the point under consideration. I will however in the spirit which dictates this communication reply to it. I proscribe no man for an honest difference of opinion, I shall be among the last to withold from any portion of my fellow citizens the privileges of the constitution for an honest exercise of opininions which they sincerely entertain, & cherish from good motives. I understand your reference to the State right party in South Carolina—and recognise amonghst those who are thus described many of my earliest and warmest friends—men who have always been true to honor & their country, and who, I am persuaded could never knowingly harbour a thought that is adverse to the welfare of their country; neither they, nor those who are like them, will ever, I assure you, receive any treatment at my hands which candidly, & dispasionately considered, can with any justice be ~~considered~~ regarded as proscription. I may differ with them but I will do them justice, and no official, or personal act will give me more pleasure than to endeavour to heal the breaches which have unhappily been made in your society. I have in more occasions than one shewn, that I entertain no such views in regard

to them as are refered to by your question, and I sincerely hope they may not be the last.

I have now in frankness and in the spirit of sincere friendship given you the reasons which influence me in this matter, in doing so, I have departed widely from the course I have, in conformity with what I understand to have been that of my predecessors, laid down for my goverment.

In what I have said it is not my intention to call in question the motives of any who may entertain opinions different from those which I have felt myself called upon to express to you in this familiar way, or to involve myself in a discussion of their respective merits. I therefore trust that so far as it regards the latter, the matter will be suffered to stop here. I am very respectfully your most obdt. servt.

Andrew Jackson

P.S. The nomination by request have been posponed until the 20th. when a selection will be made & sent to the senate A. J

ALS photocopy, THer (17-0466). Facsimile extract, Christie's (Forbes sale #2), October 9, 2002. Copy in AJ Jr.'s hand, DLC (39); Bassett, 4:241–43. Hayne replied on February 14 (below). On February 21, AJ nominated Edward Frost to fill the vacant South Carolina district attorneyship. The Senate confirmed him on February 28.

To John Overton

Washington Febr'y 8th. 1831—

My Dear friend

Your two letters of the 22d ultimo have been recd. for that on the Subject of the Seminole war I sincerely thank you, I am now fully prepared for defence, should it become necessary to make one. The conduct of Mr. Calhoun has been truly astonishing, he has been growling & grumbling, in petto, and his friends intimating that he has written a pamphlet, others of his friends deny this—he has shewn the correspondence between him & myself, & has been cutting his own throat as fast as he can politically. My own opinion is, that the whole has been a political movement, without any intention of coming out before the public—be this as it may, I am prepared for defence, and will make him understand the old adage, "O that my enemy would write a Book."[1]

I wish you to write to your friend Judge Cosby & say to him, that on the receipt of your letter, I sent for the Secretary of War, made known your wishes and his son William Vernon Cosby will receive a warrant the first vacancy in Kentucky, and sufficiently early to enter the academy the first of June next. That his Grandson Robert Todd, will in due time be appointed a midshipman in the Navy I have seen Govr. Branch upon the subject, and he says he is too young yet, that fourteen is the age but he can

be appointed the first vacancy, & remain without orders at school until he is old anough. I will attend to this.[2]

I regret you have been indisposed, happy to hear you are better, we have had the severest winter ever recollected here, the rivers have been frozen over for upwards of six weeks, & no prospect of a change. The poor, in the cities every where heard from, have, & are suffering much.

I regret that you cannot come on this spring. I do not know what my cotton will neat, but I believe not much, but part of its proceeds are much at your service.

I must here close for the present; shortly I will write you on political subjects.

Present me kindly to Mrs. O. & family—say to her, that her Sister White, has been very low, but is something better, & I trust in a kind providence, she will be able to get home again. Major Barry has been very ill but is on the mend, convalesant.[3] With my best wishes, Adieu

Andrew Jackson

Major Barry, Major Lewis and Mr Van Buren with my son & Mr Earle all join in a request to be kindly presented to you

A. J.

ALS, THi (17-0474).

1. Job 31:35.

2. Louisville lawyer Fortunatus Cosby (1765–1846) had been a Kentucky circuit judge. His son William Vernon Cosby (1814–1832) entered West Point in 1831 but resigned soon after.

3. William Taylor Barry (1784–1835) of Kentucky was Postmaster General in AJ's Cabinet.

To Thomas Rigdon et al.

Washington city, Feb. 9th, 1831.

Gentlemen,

Your communication of January last was received a few days since. I am truly grateful for an expression of feeling and sentiment so kind and indulgent, as that which it conveys in behalf of the principles which it is my object to promote in conducting the administration of the general government. To carry with me into retirement such an evidence of the approbation of my fellow citizens at the close of the four years for which they had elected me President, was the highest mark of my ambition; and one, which, if I were so fortunate as to reach, I had never anticipated would subject me to any future calls in the service of my country.

The desired amendment of the constitution, so as to give to the people a direct vote in the choice of President, and limit his term of office to

one of four or six years, with other public considerations, afforded me a ground on which I thought that my own anxious wishes to retire could be indulged without disappointing the expectations of my friends, or conflicting with any public interest. Considering, however, the numerous declarations which I have received from large portions of my countrymen, in various quarters, that my continuance in office another term is necessary to their harmonious and successful co-operation, for the complete accomplishment of those measures of improvement and reform which have been commenced under my administration; I feel it to be my duty to yield my personal wishes to their solicitations.

I pray you gentlemen to accept this expression of my gratitude for the favorable manner in which you have communicated your views on this occasion; and believe me, with great sincerity, your friend and very obedient servant.

ANDREW JACKSON.

Printed, Columbus *Ohio Monitor*, February 24, 1831 (mAJs). *Niles*, April 16 (17-0482). Addressed to "Messrs. Thos. Rigdon, John Cochran and others."

To Jacob M. Wise et al.

WASHINGTON CITY, FEBRUARY 9, 1831.

Gentlemen:—

Your communication of the 3d instant, reached me yesterday. The kind terms in which it announces your approbation of the principles and measures which it has been the object of my administration of the General Government to promote, cannot be otherwise than cheering and acceptable to me.

Nothwithstanding the hope I had entertained of retiring from the cares of office to the more peaceful walks of private life, after the termination of the four years for which I was elected President—a hope which many public considerations, as well as my own feelings had concurred in sustaining, as neither inconsistent with a proper regard for the interests of the republic, nor with that maxim which you have quoted, that dedicates to its will the services of all its citizens; I am yet ready and feel bound to relinquish it, after the declarations which I have received from so many respectable organs of the public sentiment, that its indulgence would conflict with the welfare of our common country, and disturb the harmony of the great republican party of the Union.

I can therefore only add in reply to the communication which you have been pleased to address to me in behalf of Democratic Pennsylvania, that as she was the first to call me from my chosen retirement, I will be among the last to take any steps that may be calculated to retard the prosperity of those interests which are identified with the progress and durability of

our common institutions; and if my continuance in office another term be thought essential, that my services are at the disposal of the people, as they have been heretofore.

I pray you, gentlemen, to be assured, that I appreciate justly and most gratefully the generous confidence with which Pennsylvania reviews my past conduct, and vouches for the character of that which it may be my lot hereafter to exhibit as a public servant.

With earnest wishes for your happiness, individually and collectively, I subscribe myself your friend and fellow citizen,

ANDREW JACKSON.

Printed, Harrisburg *Reporter and Democratic Herald*, February 22, 1831 (mAJs). Washington *Globe*, February 26, 1831 (17-0485); *Niles*, April 16.

To Martin Van Buren

February 10th 1831—

The President with his respects, encloses the proclamation for the signature of the secretary of State, and suggests to him the propriety of seeing Mr Sevier, and if there is nothing urging, to get him to take ~~it~~, & deliver it, to the Marshal

AN, DNA-RG 11 (T1223-1). Ambrose Hundley Sevier (1801–1848) was the Arkansas Territory delegate to Congress. The boundary between the U.S. and Mexico had not yet been located, leaving a disputed zone in present southwestern Arkansas. In 1830 colonizing agents began enticing settlers there, offering Mexican title and requiring Mexican allegiance. AJ issued a proclamation this same day under an anti-trespass law of 1807, ordering unlawful settlers in the disputed area to remove by April 15 or face ejection by the marshal backed by military force (Richardson, 2:543–44).

To John Overton

Washington Febry 12th. 1831—

My Dr friend

Had I had any other friend in whom I could confide, I should not Trouble you with the request I am about to make.

It is said that Mr Calhoun is about to come forth on the rise of congress with a publication of some kind. To be prepared, I wish the date of my confidential letter to Mr Monroe, to which Mr Rheas was an answer; & in which, Mr Rhea is spoken of as a confidential friend. This will be found in my letter Book, I think, of 1817, and in summer months of that year, altho it may be in Sept. or october This Book will be found in a Trunk, locked, in my bed room, which Mr. Steel will shew you on shewing him

this letter. You will find a note on the margin of the Book, & opposite to the letter to Mr Monroe thus, "The answer to this letter by Mr Rhea, was burnt by the request of Mr Rhea." This request was made by Mr Rhea in this city in 1819, ~~after the~~ I think about the time Congress had rose, I think the day after or on that day.[1]

If the copy of the publication of a letter from Washington, "stating that Mr Adams & Mr. Calhoun had supported Genl Jacksons conduct on the Seminole War in the Executive Council," which was published in the Nashville Whig, in june, ~~or~~ july, or august 1818, can be had I would like to have it forwarded to me. This latter however may be found on file in some of the offices here.

I will thank you to go, as soon as convenient ~~& send me~~ to the Hermitage, open the Trunk refered to & send me a copy of my confidential letter refered to. The date of that letter will be what is wanted most. I am your friend

Andrew Jackson

Col Armstrong will go with you if you request him[2] A. J

ALS, Christie's (Forbes sale #5), November 2, 2006 (mAJs; 17-0505).

1. This was AJ's letter to Monroe of January 6, 1818.

2. AJ's friend Robert Armstrong (1792–1854) was the Nashville postmaster. He replied to AJ for Overton on March 7 (below).

From Richard Mentor Johnson

House of Rep.
13th. Feb. 1831

dear Sir,

In answer to your enquiry of this morning I state that I had several conversations with Mr Calhoun, while I was preparing a counter report for the minority of the military committee relative to your conduct in the seminole war. Mr Calhoun always spoke of you with respect & kindness, and approved of my course & he never expressed to me any disapprobation of your conduct on that occasion. The substance of this communication I made to Mr Calhoun at his request previous to the publication of his corrresdonce with you on that subject[.] With sentiments of respect your ob. Sevt.

Rh. M. Johnson

[Endorsed by AJ:] Colo. R. M. Johnston statement of Mr. C. conduct pending the seminole question before the M. committee in 1818 & 1819—

ALS, DLC (39). Johnson (1780–1850) was a Kentucky congressman, former senator, and later U.S. vice president. As chair of the House Committee on Military Affairs, he had sub-

mitted a minority report on January 12, 1819, that justified AJ's Seminole campaign in its entirety and concluded that in light of "the incalculable benefits resulting to the nation," he and his troops deserved "the thanks of their country" for their "faithful and distinguished services" (*HRDoc* 86, 15th Cong., 2d sess., Serial 22). Leaving the issue of the Spanish posts to the committee on foreign relations, the majority report of the committee had severely censured AJ's trial and execution of British nationals Alexander Arbuthnot and Robert C. Ambrister during the campaign.

From John Strode Barbour

Washn. Feby 14th 1831

Soon after the meeting of Congress in the month of December 1823; I visited Mr. Garnett of Virga. at his lodgings in this City. The ensuing election of President became a prominent topick of Conversation. I remember very distinctly that Mr. Garnett said in the progress of the conversation; that at some previous session of Congress, Colo: John Taylor of Caroline and himself had called to see Mr. Monroe, when the Seminole war & General Jacksons conduct in it, were subjects of enquiry on the part of Colo Taylor—and that in reply Mr Monroe assured Colo Taylor, that the Cabinet opinion in relation thereto, was without any division among its members. Mr. Garnett further said, that at some antecedent period of time Mr. Crawford had expressed himself in terms of strong disapprobation of General Jacksons course in the war. Colo Taylor who was present corroborated what Mr. Garnett had said of his enquiries of Mr. Monroe & the reply given to those enquiries—I recollect that Mr. Newton then a member from Virga. was also present.

J. S. Barbour

ADS, DLC (39). Barbour (1790–1855) had been a Virginia congressman since 1823.

From Robert Young Hayne

Washington 14th. Feby. 1831.

My Dear Sir,

I have received your letter of the 8th. inst in reply to mine of the 4th. relative to the appointment of Dist. Atty. for So. Ca., and have to return you my acknowledgments, for the expressions of friendly regard which it contains. I trust it is unnecessary for me to assure you, that these sentiments are most cordially reciprocated. Aware of the numerous and pressing calls upon your time, I should certainly not trouble you further on this subject, but for the necessity of removing some misapprehensions both as to the object of my former letter, and the opinions of Mr. Finley. In doing so however, it is neither my desire nor intention to involve you "in any

further discussions of these subjects." You seem to have considered my letter as intended to elicit your reasons, for preferring the claims of other Gentlemen to those of Mr. F. and in that view of the subject remark "that it is not incumbent on the President to assign the reasons which govern his conduct, and that to appoint one and reject another is by the Constitution left to his discretion." Now in justice to myself, I must be permitted to remark, that nothing was further from my intention, than to call in question the exercise of your discretion in this case, and if Mr. F. had been passed over in consequence of the supposed superior claims or qualifications of any other Gentleman; *without any special reason being assigned*; I should not have said one word upon the subject. It was only because I knew that he stood before you with a weight of recommendations which in ordinary cases would unquestionably have secured his appointment, and because I was expressly informed, that you intended to pass him over, *on account of his political opinions*, that I felt it to be my duty most respectfully to call your attention to the principle involved in such a decision, operating, as I knew it must do, to the prejudice of a large, respectable, and patriotic portion of my constituents, composed entirely of those who had been among the earliest, most zealous, and uniform of your friends and supporters. I should have considered myself as acting inconsistently with that sincere friendship which I have always cherished towards you, if I had failed, to state frankly, that without designing to *proscribe*, the State Rights party of So. Ca. the course you had marked out to yourself, was calculated to produce that effect—

I understand from the terms of your letter that Mr. Finley has been *represented to you*, as a Gentleman who entertains and has expressed the opinion *that the Bonds given for duties cannot be lawfully prosecuted and enforced*, *and that he is in favor of a dissolution of the union*. Now Sir, from an intimate personal acquaintance with that Gentleman, and a thorough knowledge of his principles and opinions, I take upon myself *the responsibility* of asserting that he has not only never expressed any such opinions, but that he does not entertain them. The truth is, that Mr. F. is not more distinguished among his political associates for sterling integrity, and eminent talents, than for pure and lofty patriotism, and *a generous devotion to the union*. So far from his being remarkable for *violence*, (as seems to have been represented to you,) his whole political course has been marked by that *moderation*, which belongs to his character, and I will venture to assert that there exists no reason for excluding him from office, *on account of his principles*, which does not apply with *equal force*, to the great body of his political friends and associates. I make these explanations *in justice to Mr. F.* and without any intention of pressing his claims on your consideration. It is not for me to account for the misapprehensions which seem to prevail with respect to the opinions of Mr. F, but it is not improbable that an imprudent sentiment expressed at a public dinner, by another Gentleman of the same name, may have been errone-

ously attributed to him.[1] You may be assured Sir, that Mr. Finley would be one of the last men in this country, to accept of any office, the duties of which he could not conscientiously discharge and I trust you will do us the justice to believe that if he had been liable to any just objections in this respect his name would never have been presented to you by a majority of the South Carolina Delegation.

Having now I trust put myself right in this matter, and done justice to the character of my friend, I should not trespass further on your attention, if I did not believe that a few observations on one or two of the topics noticed in your letter, might not be unacceptable to you. You will in the first place then, permit me to remark, that *the principle*, that no man who holds the Tariff laws to be "unconstitutional," ought to be placed in a situation where "it would be his duty to collect the Bonds given for the Revenue to be paid to the government," would if carried out to its *legitimate consequences* not only drive from office almost every person now concerned in the collection of the Revenue, in the Southern States, but would exclude *nine tenths* of their citizens from holding such offices under the federal government. In illustration of this remark, I will merely call your attention to *the fact*, that the Legislatures of Virginia North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, and Alabama, have repeatedly and solemnly denounced the Tariff laws as *unconstitutional*, and I much doubt whether there is a single Collector of the Revenue South of the Potomac who does not believe them to be so—so far at least as they have been framed with a view to the protection of manufactures. Now according to our views of this matter, whatever may be a man's individual opinion as to the unconstitutionality of any law, he is bound to acquiesce in the decision of the constituted tribunals of his country; and it is only when released from this obligation by the interposition of the sovereign authority that he could feel himself justified in acting on the principle that the law was *null* and *void*. I must respectfully, though earnestly therefore express my conviction that the rule above stated while it is not necessary *to secure the faithful collection of the Revenue* is calculated to operate as a *proscription* (certainly without being so intended) of the great mass of the talent, character, and patriotism of the Southern States, where the opinion, of the unconstitutionality of a *tariff of protection*, is almost universal.

With respect to the great question, of *State Rights*, it appears to me, that *the States* must be the *guardians* of their own *reserved rights*, and that in case of "a gross deliberate and palpable violation of ~~those rights~~ the Constitution," by the assumption by the federal government of "powers not granted," it must be the right of the individual States "to interpose," in their sovereign capacity for the purpose of "arresting the progress of usurpation, and maintaining within their respective limits, the authorities, rights, and liberties appertaining to them." (See Virginia Resons. of '98)[2] If *this be not so*, it follows, of necessity, that the States must hold their rights, at the *pleasure*, or—what amounts to the same thing—at the

discretion of others, and whether the *supreme controul* is to be exercised by the Supreme Court, or by any, or all of the *departments* of the federal government, or even (as you suppose) by a *majority of the people of the U. S.* —makes in my mind, no substantial difference. The moment *the States* are deprived of the power of *interposing* for the protection of their own rights, ours will become "a government without limitation of powers."[3]

With regard to the suggestion, that in case of usurpation by the federal government "the remedy is with the people" and "that in all republics the voice of the majority must prevail," I will only remark, that it appears to me to be of the very essence of a consolodated government—that the Will of the Majority should be regarded as the supreme law, while it is the vital principle of a *federal government* that barriers should be erected by a written constitution against the exercise of unlimitted power. Now it is the very ~~object—"the whole~~ "end and aim," of a *Constitution* to preserve the rights of the *minority*, by controlling the will of the majority. It has been well observed "that it is the object of Constitutions to restrain the government as it is of Laws to restrain the people," and to admit in all cases the absolute supremacy of the popular will, would I apprehend, amount practically to "a declaration that *the compact* is not to be the measure of the powers of the federal government," but that *the majority*, "may proceed in the exercise over the States of all powers whatsoever, thereby annihilating the State governments, and erecting upon their ruins, a general consolodated government."[4] If the majority could in all cases be safely trusted, a written Constitution ~~it seems to me~~ would be unnecessary. Our past experience has served only to strengthen my conviction, of the necessity of having some better security for State Rights than "the will of the majority." For ten years have the Southern States been protesting against the usurpations of the federal government. "The people" in the other States have been over and over again "appealed to," and yet we have not advanced one step towards a redress of our grievances. And how could it be otherwise? when the burdens of which we complain, "are imposed by the representatives, not of those who pay the taxes but of those who receive the bounty"—[5]

I fully concur in the sentiment you have expressed, "that compromise, mutual concessions, and friendly forbearance, should be nourished by all who desire to perpetuate the blessings we enjoy," and I have no doubt that a faithful adherence to such sentiments on the part of *our brethren*, would at once restore peace and harmony to all parts of the union.

I beg not to be understood from what I have said, as advocating a resort by any State to her sovereign powers, in maintaining even her undoubted rights except in *an extreme case*, nor then till every other means of obtaining redress had been exhausted, when in short, the only alternative left would be to interpose her sovereignty, or "to submit to a government without limitation of powers." To possess this power may be

essential to the preservation of all our rights, to forbear to exert it, may be the highest dictate of patriotism.

I perceive that you consider it doubtful whether Mr. Jefferson (from whom I have derived my political opinions,) actually entertained such views of the rights of the States. I confess that I am unable to conceive what other construction can be put on the language used by him throughout the Kentucky Resolutions, and especially in the passage annexed to which I respectfully invite your attention. I will only add, that when it is supposed, *that evils* may grow out of the acknowledgment of *this right* in a State, the answer is, that should this prove to be the case, it will be in the power of the majority, by *calling a convention*, to provide a remedy. In support of these views, the case of the State of *Georgia* is too much in point to be passed over. If the right of "an individual State to *judge* of violations of the constitutional compact, and to *interpose* for the preservation of her reserved rights, be denied, then Georgia would have no right to call in question either the Laws of the U. S. or Treaties made with the Indians, see the Judiciary Act of '89 which is supposed to give to the Supreme Court, jurisdiction over the controversy. What let me ask, would be the consequence, of now depriving Georgia of this right, and holding her bound by these Treaties, and these Laws?—sustained as they are and always have been by "the will of the majority," she would be driven from the Union. But by undertaking as she has done, *to nullify these laws*, by declaring them "void and of no force" within her limits, the whole country sees and feels that all attempts at co-ercion are out of the question. Had the last administration been now in power, such an attempt might possibly have been made; it is fortunate however for the country that her destinies are in the hands of a chief Magistrate who estimates too highly the rights of the States, and the peace and harmony of the union, to give countenance to measures, which if consummated, would leave of "State Rights," nothing but an empty name.[6]

I am much gratified to find that you recognize among the State Rights party of So. Ca. "many of your earliest and warmest friends, men who have been always true to honor and their country." Let me assure you Sir, that in holding this language you have done them no more than justice. They were your earliest, and are now among your warmest friends, and no one could regret more sincerely than myself, that any thing should occur to interrupt that mutual confidence which has heretofore so happily existed. If however our adherence to the great principles, on which we "religiously believe," the liberties of the people, the permanence of our free institutions and the rights of the States essentially to depend, should unhappily be destined to deprive us of that confidence, I can only say that however deeply we must regret the result, it is one which no sacrifice on our part could possibly have prevented, since it could only be avoided by *the abandonment of our principles*, and the violation of the highest of all our obligations, a sacrifice which you would be the last, to require or

approve. In addressing you thus freely and frankly, I feel assured that I shall give you no offence. I have the fullest confidence that however you may differ from me, on the important topics to which I have adverted, you will justly appreciate the motives which have induced me to address you on this ~~subject~~ occasion, and that you will give me credit for the perfect sincerity, with which I subscribe myself; with great respect and esteem your most obt. Servt.

Robt. Y. Hayne

ALS, DLC (39). ALS draft, Kaller Historical Documents (mAJs).

1. At a "Great State Rights Celebration" held in Charleston on July 1, 1830, William Peronneau Finley toasted "Liberty of the tongue—Liberty of the press, Liberty of the conscience—*Liberty of the hand*." As reported in the *National Intelligencer* on July 21, the immediately preceding toast, offered by Edward C. Peronneau, was to "The Union, with impartial legislation and equality of taxation, or *a Republic south of the Potomac*."

2. Hayne paraphrased the Virginia Resolutions, drafted by James Madison and adopted by the state legislature in 1798 in response to the Alien and Sedition Acts. They and the Kentucky Resolutions of the same year, drafted by Thomas Jefferson, furnished the canonical texts of subsequent state's-rights doctrine.

3. Jefferson had used this exact phrase in a widely published letter he wrote William B. Giles on December 26, 1825, warning of the federal government's "rapid strides" toward usurpation of states' rights and consolidation of all governing powers (Paul Leicester Ford, *The Writings of Thomas Jefferson* [New York, 1892–1899], 10:355).

4. The last two quotations echo language in Jefferson's Kentucky Resolutions of 1798 and in further resolutions adopted by the Kentucky legislature in November 1799 defending the doctrine of state interposition.

5. Quoted, not quite exactly, from an untitled article on the tariff in the *Southern Review*, November 1828, p. 607.

6. Section 13 of the 1789 Judiciary Act gave the Supreme Court exclusive or original jurisdiction over all civil controversies to which a state was a party, except with its own citizens. In December 1828 and December 1829 the Georgia legislature passed laws to assume jurisdiction over the Cherokee domain within the state as of June 1, 1830. The 1828 law declared that on that date all acts of the Cherokee government would be "null and void" and the 1829 law declared they would "be null and void and of no effect," implicitly abrogating a series of U.S. treaties with the Cherokees that had recognized and guaranteed Cherokee self-government. In messages to the Cherokees and in his first annual message to Congress, AJ had acknowledged Georgia's full sovereign authority over the Indians and declared the federal government powerless to intervene.

To Anthony Butler

[Anthony Butler (1787–1849) was the U.S. chargé d'affaires to Mexico, appointed by Jackson in 1829. Printed here are Jackson's undated draft of a letter and the letter itself.]

My dear Sir

your letter of the 22nd. December has been just received & I seize the first moment of leisure from the duties that surround me to reply to it.[1]

The changed feelings of the Goverment of Mexico towards us, from the most bitter to the kindest, shews the propriety of your course since you arrived at that court and that you will be enabled by a knowledge now acquired of their character to maintain a friendly understanding with them, that must lead to placing the two Goverments, and the citizens of each, on a basis of the most perfect amity. If the acting president be sincere in his professions, in which I rely there cannot be much dificulty in convincing him, as a means to the lasting harmony of the two Governments a cession of the Texas, must be the secure basis, and from the encroachment of several officers pretending to hold authority under Mexico & coming within our settlements claim'g the country, attempting sell to our citizens, and administering the oath of alegience to them as Citizens of Mexico, shews the evils that such acts portend. The civil authority of our country was obliged to interfere & arrest this procedure, that was so well calculated to disturb the peace & harmony of the Two Governments, & I have prepared a proclamation to put it down, for the future. This will bring to your view the necessity of bringing the Subject of the Texas up at as early a day as your judgment may decide, being on the spot, that it will be prudent to stir it—and I think the time will arrive so soon as the commercial Treaty you have negotiated, is ratified by Mexico.[2]

There are another reason, why it should be brought up early. That is, I have no doubt but there are a project on foot, to take possession of it and declare it independent of Mexico, and an independant republic, this would prove fatal to the good understanding that so happily exists between the two Goverments; for notwithstanding the means I have employed, to counteract defeat, & detect this diabolical scheme still if carried into effect it would be dificult to make the government of Mexico believe that we had not countenanced it—for should a concentration of forces be made west of the Sabine I would have no right to enter upon the Territory of Mexico to crush it, and all I can do is to arrest & punish any body of men who may assemble within our boundery for such a wicked purpose[3]

Should Texas be thus seized upon and declared independent from the prevailing spirit, its members would be, *soon*, augmented to such ~~numbers~~ strength as would put it beyond the power of Mexico to put down, particularly as ~~the~~ a great many here have always deprecated the act that surrendered that country to Spain, and would indiviually emigrate to that country under the terms that would be held out of getting land given them for settlement[4]

These things are to be dreaded, and ought not to be viewed as altogether *[Ideal]*, and may be urged with truth & great force, with the assurance that every thing in the power of the Executive will be done to restrain & punish any association that he may find engaged in this wicked combination. But when it is considered the facilities of getting there under the idea of commerce, of emigration &c &c and every man having a gun & able to get one years provision have a right peaceable to go there, how

easy to concentrate a force sufficient for this purpose, without it being in the power of the Executive to detect them or prove their intention. This proof must be had before they can be arrested.

This can be urged with much force—and the sooner the arrangement of cession, if made at all, is made the better for the peace & tranquility of both countries; for if once seized upon, it will cost much blood & Treasure to put it down & querry then whether our Government would receive a cession of it. The time is now favorable, as Great Britain has anough to do at home with her own Subjects & all Europe appear to be on the eve of revolution—& now is the time to push the subject to secure a lasting peace between the two countries

we are looking with great anxiety for the recipt of the Treaty &c

give him a short sketch of the news domestic & Foreign; That his request of Books are complied with, & the sec of state directed to send him some papers—

AL draft, DLC-Donelson Papers (17-0528).

1. Butler had negotiated, though not yet formally concluded, a commercial treaty with Mexico to replace one of February 1828, which Mexico had not ratified. Butler had written Van Buren on December 22, 1830, that the treaty would soon be submitted to the new Mexican Congress and "doubtless be immediately ratified" (Van Buren Papers, DLC). The treaty was signed in Mexico City on April 5, 1831. Butler wrote AJ about it on May 25 (below).

2. On May 26, 1830, acting Mexican President Anastasio Bustamante (1780–1853) had written AJ professing personal and national friendship, to which AJ had replied in kind on October 7 (*Jackson Papers*, 8:276–77, 543–44). AJ had issued his proclamation against settlements under Mexican title in southwestern Arkansas on February 10 (Richardson, 2:543–44). AJ had repeatedly urged Butler to press upon Mexican authorities that ceding Texas to the U.S. would provide the surest quietus to various border problems.

3. On December 2, 1830, Virginia journalist Robert Mayo had warned AJ that former Tennessee governor Samuel Houston (1793–1863) was preparing an expedition against Texas. On December 10, AJ had written Arkansas Territory secretary William S. Fulton instructing him to watch and report any suspicious movements (*Jackson Papers*, 8:643–47, 683–84).

4. A number of Americans (including AJ in a June 8, 1829, letter to John Overton) had opined that Texas rightfully belonged to the U.S. as part of the Louisiana Purchase and had been unwarrantably surrendered to Spain by Secretary of State John Q. Adams in the Florida cession treaty of 1819.

Private and Confidential

Washington City
February 15th. 1831

My Dear Sir,

Your letter of the 22d. December last has been received; and I seize the [first] moment at my command, amidst the duties that surround me, to reply to it.

The change in the feelings of the Mexican Government, from the most bitter to the kindest, since your presence at it, shews the propriety of your

conduct, and is the strongest assurance that you will succeed in placing the relations of the two Governments on the basis of perfect amity.

If the acting President be sincere in the professions which he has made to us, there cannot be much difficulty in convincing him that the most important step to the lasting harmony of the two countries will be a cession of Texas to us. Of the proper time for the suggestion of the many considerations that call for this step, you can better judge than I can, from a more intimate view of all the circumstances that affect the counsels and policy of that Government. It would seem to me that the most favorable auspices will follow the ratification of the commercial Treaty which you have negotiated and the knowledge of the disturbances to which the unsettled state of the boundary question has recently subjected us on the borders of Arkansas. These ~~circumstances~~ disturbances will be mentioned to you in an official letter from the Secretary of State, and will furnish an occasion which you may well improve, to introduce a discussion that may enable you to discern what turn the authorities of Mexico feel at liberty to give to the general question of *limits*. If they are disposed to survey with the eyes of Statesmen the relative position of the two countries, and to examine the causes which are likely to impede their mutual prosperity and intercourse, for the purpose of removing them, the policy of a cession of Texas may be canvassed without reviving those jealousies which you have recited as so artfully fanned by foreign influence during Mr. Poinsetts service there.[1]

There is reason to fear that a project is already on foot by adventurers from the United States, acting in concert with disaffected citizens of Mexico, to take possession of Texas and declare it an independent republic; and altho' the Government of the United States has employed and will continue to employ all the means in its power to defeat it, that it may be difficult to pursuade Mexico that we are not thus secretly endeavoring to undermine her authority for the purpose of wresting from her a part of her possessions. Should a concentration of force, West of the Sabine river, take place, it is easy to see that the limited authority of the Executive according to our constitution would make his power, tho' exerted to the utmost, inefficient in arresting a procedure so prejudicial to Mexico; and in spite of it that it might soon acquire strength to ensure its success. Emigrants from this country tempted by the promises which would be offered *[. . .]*[2]
punishment for crimes committed within the limits of the United States.

An event so probable as this deserves to be seriously considered by Mexico, and may be at least adverted to by you for the purpose of counteracting the jealousies which its anticipation is so well calculated to excite. Strong assurances that every thing in our power will be done to avert it, by punishing the citizens of the United States who may be detected as forming a part of the conspiracy against her authority, within the *[. . .]*[2] of Foreign affairs, as to the safest means of removing the causes of it.

I cannot but think that a thorough examination of the whole subject will satisfy Mexico, that her true policy recommends a cession of the province, not yet placed in a situation by the harmony, intelligence and number of her citizens, to regard extent of Territory, as we do, an important agent in the developement and preservation of the Representative principle, she must be sensible that it is in truth the vital source of her weakness, and particularly that portion including Texas, in which natural as well as artificial causes combine to exclude that community of intere[sts] and feeling which are the basis of civil power in all countries.

From these hints you will see the ground which I would occupy in friendly conferences with the Secretary of foreign affairs, and the process by which I would demonstrate the necessity of a prompt and lasting decision of this question of boundary. A revolt in Texas may close the door forever to its advantageous settlement, and may eventuate not merely in the loss of that Province to Mexico with much blood and treasure, but break up the friendly understanding which is now established between this Government and her's, and lead to a train of events that may obscure for a long period the sun of liberty in that quarter. No period can be more favorable than the present for its impartial and wise consideration. European powers have now enough to do to preserve peace within their own dominions, which, with scarce an exception, are in a state of revolution

We are looking with great anxiety for your Treaty.

You will receive with this note the books for which you wrote and some of our public papers giving the home news. Yr. sert. & friend

Andrew Jackson

LS in AJ Donelson's hand, TxU (17-0520).

1. Joel Roberts Poinsett (1779–1851) had been American minister plenipotentiary to Mexico. Mexican hostility to Poinsett prompted AJ to recall him for Butler in October 1829.

2. Here the manuscript has been torn and several lines of text are missing.

From George Poindexter and Thomas Hinds

Washington City
Feb 15th: 1831

Sir,

The undersigned Senators and Representative, from Mississippi beg leave to recommend Gideon Fitz of Mississippi to be surveyor of the Lands of the United States, south of the State of Tennessee; Mr Fitz is well qualified for the office—has been engaged, in the surveying department in Louisiana and Mississippi for more than twenty years, and is every way worthy of confidence. If this nomination is made, the office of Register of the Land Office at Clinton in Mississippi, will become vacant, as Mr Fitz is the present Register; we therefore concur in the appointment of Colo.

Hays to this latter office; as we understand, it is his intention to emigrate to Mississippi, we are willing to regard him, as entitled to fill an office among us. We are with great respect yr. mo obt st.

Geo Poindexter
Tho. Hinds

[Endorsed by AJ:] Messrs. Poindexter and Hinds—

LS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0533). George Poindexter (1779–1853) was a U.S. senator from Mississippi and Thomas Hinds (1780–1840) was its sole congressman. On December 20, 1830, AJ had nominated Rachel Jackson's nephew Stockley Donelson Hays (1788–1831), a resident of Jackson, Tenn., to be surveyor of public lands for the district south of Tennessee, comprising Louisiana and Mississippi. After an inquiry by the Committee on Public Lands into Hays's character and qualifications, the Senate had adopted on February 3, 1831, by a vote of 22 to 10, a resolution offered by Poindexter declaring it "inexpedient" to appoint a citizen of one state to office in another "without some evident necessity for such appointment" (*Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:150–51). Gideon Fitz (1778–1859) was register of the Mount Salus or Clinton, Miss., land office. Enclosing this letter to the Senate, AJ on February 18 withdrew Hays's nomination for surveyor, nominated Fitz in his place, and nominated Hays for register at Clinton. The Senate confirmed Fitz promptly without a roll call and confirmed Hays on February 21 by 25 to 19, Poindexter voting in favor. AJ wrote Thomas H. Williams on April 7 condemning Poindexter's conduct in the affair, and also wrote a memorandum on or about March 8 concerning David Crockett's (both below). Hays died on September 8.

From John Coffee

Florence 16th. Feby 1831

Dear Genl.

I have just received the enclosed letter from A. J. Hutchings, and I send it to you for your opinion on the subject matter of its contents.[1] I regret that Andrew is so determined to abandon his farm in Alabama, for it is now a very valuable one, but it cannot be sold for its value, the course of policy pursued by the Genl. and State Govts. in reduceing the price of the public lands in this state, has depressed the prices so much that land cannot be sold here at this time for any thing like its value.[2] I suppose his farm here would not sell now for more than 7 or 8 dollars, if so much, and that to be paid by instalments, and at all events it cannot be conveyed away untill he becomes of age, which will be now about two years I believe. He remarks that Mrs. Wards land can be had at the reduced price of $15 ℔ acre—this is about double what he can get for his here—but I am not able to judge of the value of Mrs. Wards land. I incline to believe it high, when compared with the prices here, but you will be the best judge of the price. But I dont know how Mrs. Ward can convey her land away, as I believe her little daughter is the principal owner, and will not be of age to convey for 12 or 14 years but perhaps, Albert G Ward and his mother will undertake to guaranty the tittle to the purchaser, and if so, I suppose

it might be made good. I believe that Andrew has fixed his affection on that neighbourhood so strongly that nothing can or will change him in his determination, and I fear when he arrives of age, he will be so eager to sell here, and purchase there, that he will injure himself, provided nothing is done by us before that time, yet I feel reluctant to act in the business seeing that he is so near at age to act for himself[3]

I will write to William Donelson requesting him to call and see Mrs. Ward, and Albert, and know of them their price, and the payments required, and what tittle they can make, in the mean time I will thank you to drop me a line and give me your ideas of the business—[4]

We have no news of any consequence here; lately our political men are all still, I suppose they are waiting the moving of the waters—and to see how the wire workers direct the political machinery—

I mentioned in my last to you, that I would write you so soon as I heard from Mrs. Emily Donelson, to whom I had written. I have not as yet heard from her.

I have just received a letter from Maunsel White of New Orleans, informing me that Cotton is very dull sale in that market, owing to the unsetled state of affairs in Europe, and high freights &c—he says "I was only offered 9 cents for Genl. Jacksons Crop, and it is truly a beautiful lot. I shall hold Mr. Hutchings's untill further advices are received from Europe on which we may rely for either peace or War." Thus we may not expect much, if any, improvement in the price, although we here believe that there will be no general War in Europe, but on that subject you have the best advice—my cotton had not reached the City when A. J. H.s. did, and when I recd. the last advice—

My family are in general good health—all unite in offering you our kind respects—Dr. Genl. your friend

Jno. Coffee

[Endorsed by AJ:] Genl Coffee inclosing one from A. J. Hutchings

ALS, DLC (39).

1. Andrew J. Hutchings had written Coffee on February 12, to which Coffee replied this same day, February 16 (Coffee Papers, THi).

2. Since 1820, the legal minimum price to purchase federal public lands was $1.25 per acre. Government lands recently put in market in Alabama included several dozen townships first offered at public auction in October and November 1830, and also 400,000 acres granted to the state in May 1828 to raise funds for navigation improvements on the Tennessee River, which state commissioners had then appraised for sale at valuations much below what many thought they were worth.

3. The Hutchings farm was in north Alabama, near Coffee's. Hutchings had wanted to purchase Hunter's Hill, the plantation AJ had sold to Edward Ward in 1804. In 1830 Ward instead sold it to Henry Baldwin Jr. Hutchings then turned to the plantation of Sarah Jones Ward, widow of William Crawley Ward (d. 1827). William's estate had been divided between Sarah and their children Albert G. Ward (d. 1840) and Mary Indiana Ward. AJ wrote AJ Donelson about the purchase on March 24 (below).

4. William Donelson (1795–1864), son of Rachel Jackson's late brother John Donelson, lived near the Hermitage and helped look after AJ's affairs.

From Joseph Blount Hinton

Washington City
16th Feby. 1831.

My beloved Chief Magistrate,

Crowds of persons and letters doubtless are daily pressing upon you, and were it not that I am confident that the countenance and converse of a friend are welcome and grateful to your feelings, I would refrain from increasing the number. Among your *friends*, I know I deserve to be ranked, not only because you had my vote & what influence I could exert, as early as 1824, but because I laboured to impress it upon the Senate of my own State, and through that body upon the Nation at large, that the repose & harmony of this ~~Nation~~ Country demanded your re election.[1] I believe it still and shall act accordingly. The cares and burthens are no doubt great and oppressive, which the offerings of the Nations gratitude, impose upon you, but I do hope, that the patriots reward will encourage you—towit—that you are serving the present—yes & future ages—and that while the world shall stand you will have the plaudits of well done—well done—of the friends of freedom every where.

Since I came here I have been a close observer & listener—and my opportunities have been by no means few or inconsiderable. I have seen & heard enough to convince me that it is time to be alarmed—& to act. Yesterday, I sought an opportunity of opening all my Heart to you, but was told at your door, that I could not see you. To day the air is damp & my cold great—hence, instead of repeating my effort to see you, my very dear Sir, I write these lines. I should not be a friend, if I withheld any important matter from you. You will therefore readily pardon my freedom.

I believe it a settled fact—that Judge M Lean is to oppose you at the next election. Church and other interests are to harmonise to effect his election. The East. & North. Pennsylvania, Maryland, So. Ca & such of the West as can be carried & church influence are to act together, or those who *do know*, mistake the case. I need not add that the Department of State will of course go to Mr. Calhoun. While these arrangements are progressing, the Honl Judge is not merely a passive spectator.[2] You doubted whether he could carry the Methodists—there will be exceptions, but he will carry the multitude of the *Episcopal* Methodists: he is their idol & the hope of measurably controlling the first office & the patronage of the Government will carry them almost entire. They are vastly clannish. I know them well for I was cradled among them. Was more than twenty years a member & a high officer, among them. Was many years Trustee for holding their Church property & Secretary of their Conference—and continued so & a vast favourite until I took sides for Reform & representative Government, and when the preachers refused to yield the freedom of American Citizens to us, with about sixty thousand others,

we withdrew & formed a Republican & Representative Government for ourselves. Judge M Lean sticks to the old side & they must stick to him, but if the American People continue true to the principles of the Revolution, we must soon rival & outnumber the absolute Power party The Reformed Church will unite hastily in your cause—& now they are becoming numerous in most of the States.[3] No. Carolina will not go against you for any one living. Demagogues can indeed do much with a quiet people, such as are those of our State, but it will be easy to keep the people true to their attachment to you. Judge M Lean is popular, I know—& Mr Calhoun was once the favourite of our people, but not so now: he has fallen & Mr. Van Buren is rising. If I might presume to advise, I would say—Consent, dear Sir to take a re election & let it be authoritatively stated so all over the Nation. You have been called from all points of the Compass, almost—you will, I hope obey the call. Do this and leave the rest to God & your fellow citizens: they will bear you through triumphantly. There is—excuse me, my dear Sir, there is a moral power in your character and name too mighty for resistance. I shall return in a few days to No. Ca & shall be pleased to have it in my power to dispel the delusion so often attempted to be practiced—'Genl. Jackson don't intend to take another election'—& in that way keep the public mind in the condition most easily to be operated on in favour of some one else.

Pardon me if I add, that I shall return to my State a disappointed man. I came here, as I verily believe as righteously a creditor of this Government, as any one that ever knocked at the Treasury doors. I understood the claims were to be acted on at this Congress, before I came. Thirty years ago & more, I was robbed of nearly thirty thousand Dollars under the French flag—or what is the same, my Sire was. We have been poor ever since—thirty years ago, in a moment of rare good luck, the President & Senate of the United States, obtained from reluctant France, the abrogation of those Treaties which we could not fulfil, and which would ever have made us Parties in every War of France—have ever kept us poor—wasted Myriads of the lives of our Citizens—made Rivers of blood to flow—and cost us hundreds upon hundreds of millions of Dollars. All this degradation, bloodshed and ruin was prevented by the American Government surrendering up to France, ~~a~~ll the property of our suffering fellow citizens, captured by her armed vessels—& releasing that power from the claims of the sufferers. And it is marvellous, that after using our property to purchase such an inestimable benefit for the Nation, we, the sufferers have been lingering unavailingly, these thirty years about the doors of this Government. We have neither been paid, nor the debt funded—while others, who had only lost an ox, or a Horse or an Acre of land, has been paid—& properly because the Constitution forbids private property to be taken for public use, without indemnity Of all the public debt—ours is certainly the most sacred: & crying injustice has been done to it.[4]

May all your days, my dear Sir, be sunny & happy—as they have & now are glorious & useful. Most truly your friend & obt

Jos. B Hinton

ALS, DLC (39). *North Carolina Historical Review* 14 (1937): 369–71. Hinton (b. c1789) was a state senator from Beaufort County, North Carolina.

1. On January 6, 1831, Hinton had presented resolutions in the North Carolina senate recommending AJ for reelection. The resolutions were rewritten in committee to merely declare confidence in AJ's administration, omitting mention of reelection; these passed the senate but were finally tabled after the senate twice narrowly refused an amendment from the lower house of the legislature to re-insert an endorsement of AJ's candidacy. Hinton then entered a formal protest, stating that the vast majority of North Carolinians favored AJ's reelection and that "while the Legislatures of other States are proclaiming their candidates, we should not be silent, but fearlessly say that Andrew Jackson is ours" (Raleigh *Star*, January 13, 1831). From 1825 through 1827, Hinton had written President Adams a series of letters seeking office and professing his support for the administration and opposition to Jackson (Adams Family Papers, MHi).

2. John McLean (1785–1861) of Ohio was appointed to the Supreme Court by AJ in March 1829 after serving as postmaster general under Monroe and Adams. He was a prominent Methodist.

3. In the early 1790s, James O'Kelly had led a secession of "Republican Methodists" from the Methodist Episcopal Church in search of a less hierarchical and more congregational mode of governance. They joined with other dissenters to form the Christians, or Christian Connection.

4. By the Convention of 1800 which terminated the moribund alliance between the U.S. and France and ended the naval "quasi-war," the U.S. dropped its claims against France for previous spoliations on American commerce. Victims of those spoliations afterwards sought recompense from their own government. Hinton was a claimant as heir of his deceased father-in-law, Covington Simkins, whose schooner and cargo had been seized by a French privateer. A bill to award $5 million to spoliation claimants was reported to the Senate in December 1830 but did not pass.

To Mary Ann Eastin

Febry 17th. 1831—

My Dear Mary,

I have just recd. your affectionate letter of the 30th. ultimo, & have only time to acknowledge its receipt, & to thank you for your visit to the Hermitage & the information you have given me. I am happy to hear that you are all well, but my young friend John Donelson & that he is convalescent, and I hope ere this, is restored to that greatests of blessings, health;[1]

My health is not very good, I have been afflicted with headache for the last two or three days, I am this morning better, & I hope, with the fine weather, with which we are *now*, for the first time, for two months, promised, I will perfectly regain my health;

I sincerely regretted, When I turned to your former letter on last sunday, to see, that I had failed to answer one part of it—you had asked me

for something of your Dear Aunts, as a memento. I have reserved for you & your aunt Emily, something of your aunts, & inteded to have Delivered them when at the Hermitage last. My mind was too much troubled to think of it, and when I wrote you last the business that was then crouding around me, occasioned me to forget it. *It will be retained for you.*

I am now writing with company waiting, & can only add the request to be kindly remembered to Emily & the two sweet little children your grandmother & all the connection, & accept for yourself a tender of my sincere regard, & am yours affectionately[2]

Andrew Jackson

ALS photocopy, THer (17-0571).

1. Probably Mary's brother, John Donelson Eastin (b. 1820).
2. Mary's grandmother was Emily Donelson's mother, Mary Purnell Donelson.

From Tuckabatchee Hadjo and Octeahchee Emathla

*[By the Treaty of Washington in 1826, the Creek Indians had relinquished their remaining lands in Georgia while the U.S. guaranteed to them "all the country, not herein ceded, to which they have a just claim." The Creeks were now confined to a five-million acre domain lying entirely within Alabama. Emulating Georgia, Alabama in January 1829 adopted a law to extend state jurisdiction over their territory. The Creeks protested and appealed to Jackson for protection. Jackson and Eaton responded that the Creeks would be protected in their property, but that they would have to submit to Alabama's laws (*Jackson Papers, *8:202–3). The Creek population was divided between Upper and Lower Towns. On January 7, 1831, the Lower Town chiefs, acting in the name of the entire Creek Nation, appointed Tuckabatchee Hadjo and Octeahchee Emathla as delegates to Washington, accompanied by interpreters Paddy Carr and Thomas Carr and advisor John Hunt Brodnax, to present their grievances to Congress and the president (*SDoc *512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, p. 411, Serial 245).*

On March 24, 1832, a Creek delegation in Washington signed a treaty ceding all Creek lands east of the Mississippi.]

18th. February 1831

To our Father the President

We have been here twenty days, our expences are very high, and but little to pay them with. The second day after our arrival We communicated our views to the Secretary at War. As yet we have received no answer in return.[1]

We said to him that we had come to see you, with every good feeling, that our business was of such a nature as deserved your attention. As we are now about to return to our Country, we *[renew]* the talk to you.

The white people in Georgia and Alabama have taken away our Ferries also we are prohibitted from making use of Flats & Canoes in the waters forming boundaries to our Country. This privilege *we have alway* been taught to believe belong to us. We crave certain improvements valued and paid for which lie in the ceded Territory of the Creeks to the U.S. for the use of Georgia at the Treaty made and concluded at this place in 1826, which was omitted by the commissioners appointed for that purpose.[2]

We have been informed that it is likely the guardian care of our country will be with drawn Should this take place, abandoned white men will soon rob us of the little we, now, possess. We should never be able to gave you information, when any difficulties should ensue. We should not have any friend on whose faith we could rely.[3]

We are informed by our agent that for the future our anuity is not to be paid as heretofore to the head Chiefs.[4] If this is adherd to, it will be very oppressive to many of our Head men. They have become individually responsible for large amounts which was created for the use of the common People as well as for themselves. And without the management and use of the anuity they will be compell'd to pay out of their private property. We beag for it to be paid agreeable to immemorial usuage to the head chiefs, for them to distribute as circumstances may require. They are the persons who employ Blacksmiths they are the persons who buy Looms & Spining wheels they are the persons who the common people took to for victuals when they get hungry—They are the persons whom the poor look to When they are cold and naked. There charity is always extended more than the anuity coming to each if equally distributed could possibly ~~suffice~~ do good.

Before we conclude we cannot refrain from mentioning to you the moving of the whites into our Country, hundreds of settlements are now making—in all appearance the Country will soon be settled thickly by them. We frequently see companies of white men traveling through our Country marking out situations and giving us notice that they will soon setele them: this to us is strange conduct. And we are affraid will lead to blood shed. We have bad red people among us, which we can not control. You have the same characters among the whites. We wish to live in peace upon our own lands. In this particular we are required to call your immeadiate attention, murders have already taken place and we have no expectation of receiving satisfaction unless by the intervention of your authority

We received information by our Special Agent Col Brodnax that you had formed an idea that we were here for the purpose of prosecuting a suit in the Supreme Court. We know nothing of any suits. we refer you

to our instructions in the War office. On the contrary we are particularly required to have nothing to do with any other tribes but alone to attend to our own business which we ~~have~~ now ma~~d~~ke known to you.[5] We hope to be believed[.] With high regard we are your unfortunate Red Children

Tuckebache Hajo
Octe ah chee Emarta
Delegates for the Creek

Paddy & Thos. Carr Interpreters

DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-222).

1. The delegates had addressed Eaton on February 1, 1831, presenting the same grievances voiced here. On February 7, Samuel S. Hamilton, head of the War Department's Indian bureau, wrote Brodnax conveying Eaton's response that his "official engagements are such as to prevent him from examining into, and answering at present, the several inquiries submitted by them for his consideration" (*SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 405–7, 269, Serial 245).

2. The Treaty of Washington provided that U.S. commissioners were to appraise and compensate Creek improvements on ceded lands. It also guaranteed the Creeks a shared right of ferriage across streams bordering their territory. In their February 1 letter to Eaton, the delegates complained of the withholding of their equal share of ferry proceeds as a "palpable infraction" of all their past treaties.

3. In their February 1 letter to Eaton, the delegates said that Creek agent John Crowell had told them that his agency might be withdrawn. Crowell had written Eaton on January 13 about the delegation, saying it was sent contrary to his advice. He suggested that "receiving them kindly" might help reconcile the Creeks to Alabama's assumption of jurisdiction (*SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 391–92, Serial 245).

4. On June 17, 1830, the War Department had ordered that Indian annuities were henceforth to be paid directly to individuals or families rather than to the chiefs or governments (DNA-RG 107, M6-12).

5. On February 15, the delegates had written Indian superintendent Hamilton to dispel the impression, which Brodnax had learned of in talking with AJ, that they were in Washington to support the Cherokees' challenge to state sovereignty in the Supreme Court case of *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*. To disprove it, they furnished their instructions, which explicitly forbade advising with other Indians or straying from the grievances they were charged to present (*SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 410–11, Serial 245).

From George Gray Leiper

Saturday Morning Feb. 19. 31

Dear General

I was not well yesterday morning when I called and did not explain my views as I wished respecting my friend Mr Erwin. of Penna Mr Erwin has been recommended in the highest manner for his legal talents by the two presiding judges in the courts he practices law in and can be most fully substantiated by many of his colleagues in his own delegation. The circumstance of his having but one case in the district court I answer by saying it was the only one presented from his county. Mr Buchanan told

me he never had one and judgeships have been offered to him as thick as blackberries and after the drama which has lately been acted here in Pecks case no one will deny his qualifications[1] Mr Erwin. has always been attached to the democratic party was a distinguished member of the legislature and in public as well as private life stands without a blemish

Mr Erwin became a candidate for congress at the late ~~congressional~~ presidential struggle in Pennsylvania resigning an extensive and lucrative practice which as a natural consequence must be impaired

Mr Erwin has become the victim of politics and been prostrated by an unholy alliance of Clay men and Antimasons your enemies and should therefore be upheld by yourself and your friends.[2]

Mr. Erwin's appointment would please those men who stood by you in the hour of peril displaying a solid front laughing in their sleeves at the story which rang from one end of the continent to the other the Great Changes in Pennsylvania and which your enemies so much desired

Mr Erwin is recommended by eighteen of the members of the Pennsylvania delegation and the two senators are in his favour[3]

Mr Irwin is a Pennsylvanian by birth the son of a distinguished father who during life was an intimate friend of mine. He was an officer of the continental line at the commencement of the war but was transferred to the quarter master department. At a crisis perhaps the most momentous this country ever saw. when the father of this country weeping over its woes with his half clad and half fed troops insulted by an arrogant and invading foe was obliged in the sorrow of his heart to write to judge Peters then minister at war unless supplies reached the camp next day he must disband his army. These were the times truly that tried mens souls. Robert Morris stood foremost but it is enough for my purpose to say Mr Irwins father stands on that list £5000 pounds. Patriotism was not then reduced to the scale of dollars and cents[4]

I will only add thereto Mr Irwin ought and I hope will receive the appointment of judge In haste I am and always have been sincerely yours.

George G. Leiper

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr. Leiper on the subject of the judge P.a. in favor of Mr Irwin—judge Barnd's letter to be filed A. J.

ALS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0587). Leiper (1786–1868) and Thomas Irwin (1785–1870) were Pennsylvania congressmen. AJ had been solicited since December 1830 to appoint Irwin to the U.S. district judgeship for western Pennsylvania about to be vacated by William Wilkins, who had been elected to the next Senate. AJ wrote Van Buren about the position on April 12 (below).

1. James Hawkins Peck (1790–1836), a federal district judge in Missouri, was impeached for abusing his contempt powers by the House of Representatives in April 1830 and acquitted by the Senate after a lengthy trial on January 31, 1831, by a vote of 22 to 21. Pennsylvania congressman and later U.S. president James Buchanan (1791–1868), then chair of the House Judiciary Committee, was the chief House manager at the trial.

2. Irwin's term in Congress ended March 3, 1831. He was defeated for reelection in October 1830 by Andrew Stewart. The Anti-Masonic Party had organized after the disappearance and presumed murder in 1826 of William Morgan of Batavia, N.Y., who had planned to expose secret rituals of the Order of Freemasonry.

3. Fifteen Pennsylvania congressmen headed by Leiper had recommended Irwin on December 20, 1830 (DNA-RG 46, 16-1507). Senator Isaac Dutton Barnard (1791–1834) wrote AJ in his favor on February 24 (17-0647). Pennsylvania's other senator was William Marks (1778–1858).

4. Irwin's father, merchant Matthew Irwin (1740–1800), had been Pennsylvania's quartermaster general during the Revolution. He was one of some eighty Philadelphians who in June 1780 made a public pledge of funds to supply the armies. Financier Robert Morris (1734–1806) led the list with £10,000 and Irwin subscribed £5,000. Richard Peters (1744–1828), later a federal judge in Pennsylvania, was secretary of the Continental Board of War from 1776 to 1781.

To John Branch

Washington
Febry. 20th. 1831

Dear Sir,

The prospects of a European war in the spring admonish us not to neglect the repair of our vessels of war of the first and second class and as the best means of effecting this, the speedy completion of the dry dock at Gosport. Without this dock the dilapidation of many of our finest vessels will not be checked in time to allow of their future use.

I have read the report of Mr Baldwin to the commissioners, and can see no reason for delaying this work. The foundation is already established; the side walls are supported by the Earthen wall in the rear, and nothing is necessary now to their progress but the time which ought to be allowed for the proper adhesion of the cement, which I understand is but little for *water* cement.

If Mr. Baldwin would advertise a certain price for the necessary stone delivered, without making special contracts, he would easily obtain an abundant supply. Such an advertisement would soon glut the market and secure the cheapest as well as the most certain supply.

I have to repeat, that the dangerous condition of our ships of war of the first class, the appearance of a general war in Europe, and the necessity of having our navy in a situation to protect promptly our commerce, all urge upon us the completion of that Dry dock as speedily as possible. I hope it may be done time enough this summer for the reception of the fine ship NC, which will, be otherwise rendered useless as many other vessels for the want of protection.[1] yrs. respectfully

Andrew Jackson

LS in AJ Donelson's hand, DNA-RG 45 (M124-126). In 1827 Congress had authorized two dry docks, one of which was now under construction at the Gosport (also called Norfolk)

navy yard at Portsmouth, Va. It opened in 1833. Loammi Baldwin Jr. (1780–1838) was the supervising engineer on the project.

1. The *North Carolina*, a 74-gun ship of the line, was launched in 1820. It had been in ordinary at Norfolk since 1827. In August 1833 it entered the new dry dock for repairs.

From John Henry Eaton

*[On February 15 the Senate adopted, by 43 to 3, a resolution offered by Senator Theodore Frelinghuysen (1787–1862) of New Jersey to require explanation from the president whether the Indian Intercourse Act of March 30, 1802, was being complied with and enforced, and if not, why not. That Act recognized treaty boundaries "between the said Indian tribes and the United States" and prescribed penalties for trespass across them. It also tightly regulated Indian trade, requiring a federal license and prohibiting commerce in certain articles. In Senate debate on his resolution, Frelinghuysen condemned Georgia's assumption of authority over the Cherokees, and the War Department's complicity with it, as palpable violations of principle, of past practice, and of law (*Register of Debates, *21st Cong., 2d sess., pp. 204–8).*

Jackson referred the resolution to Eaton, whose reply is printed here. Jackson enclosed Eaton's report in a message to the Senate on February 22 (below).]

Department of War
Feby. 21. 1831

In reply to your direction, to be informed of the course which has been pursued at this Department to enforce the provisions of the act of March 1802, regulating trade and intercourse with the Indians, I have the honor to state.

During last year frequent complaints were made, that persons from Georgia and other States, had entered upon the lands of the Cherokee Indians, and were digging for gold. The prospect of gain from the pursuit, had drawn many to the country. Riots had taken place, and serious disturbances were threatened, and feared. To prevent them, a detachment of troops was ordered into the Indian Country, under and in pursuance of the act of 1802, as will appear by orders to the commanding officer stationed at Fort Mitchell, hereto appended, marked (1 – 2 – 3)[1]

On the 8th of November last, another order issued directing the troops to retire from the country of the Cherokee Indians, and to resume their position again at their former encampment—see order marked (4)[2]

Within a day or two after this order was issued, information was officially communicated by the Governor of Georgia, that the legislature being in session, had entered upon the consideration of this subject, and

that the laws of Georgia would be extended over the Indian Country. His letter is annexed, marked (A)[3]

The opinion entertained by you, being that the United States cannot rightfully interfere within a State, when the laws are extended—any application to place troops within Georgia, on account of the act of 1802, must for the future be disregarded. Very Respectfully

J. H Eaton

LS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0600). LC, DNA-RG 107 (M127-2). *SDoc* 65, 21st Cong., 2d sess., pp. 5–6 (Serial 204).

1. The Indian Intercourse Act authorized use of military force to expel intruders within Indian country. Eaton's three attachments were War Department orders of March 1830 to Brevet Major Philip Wager at Fort Mitchell, Ala., to remove intruders among the Cherokees.

2. Eaton attached orders of November 8, 1830, from Army commander General Alexander Macomb to Wager, directing him to withdraw his troops to Fort Mitchell and observing that the Georgia legislature would likely soon take measures to make their redeployment among the Cherokees unnecessary.

3. Eaton attached a letter that Georgia governor George Rockingham Gilmer (1790–1859) wrote AJ on October 29, 1830. Gilmer announced the implementation of Georgia's laws extending jurisdiction over the Cherokees and requested the withdrawal of federal troops, as the enforcement of the Indian Intercourse Act "is considered inconsistent with the right of jurisdiction which is now exercised" by the state and, if attempted, might produce "difficulties" between state and federal authorities (*Jackson Papers*, 8:590–92).

To the United States Senate

*[On February 22, Jackson sent a message to the Senate responding to Frelinghuysen's resolution of February 15 and enclosing Eaton's report of February 21. The message was printed by the Senate with its attachments (*SDoc *65, 21st Cong., 2d sess., Serial 204); it also appears in Richardson, 2:536–41. In the Library of Congress (DLC-76) are fragmentary drafts of the first part of the message by Eaton and Van Buren and a full draft by Donelson. Printed here is the Donelson draft, which closely approaches the final version.]*

To the Senate of the United States

February 22d 1831

I have received your resolution of the 15th instant requesting me "to inform the Senate whether the provisions of the Act entitled an act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian Tribes and to preserve peace on the frontiers passed the 30th. of March 1802 have been fully complied with on the part of the United States Government, and if they have not, that he inform the Senate of the reasons that have induced the Government to decline the enforcement of said act"; and I now reply to the same

Acccording to my views of the act referred to, I am not aware of any omission to carry into effect its provisions in relation to trade and inter-

course with the Indian Tribes so far as their execution depended on the agency confided to the Executive

The numerous provisions of that act designed to secure to the Indians the peaceable possession of their lands may be reduced substantially to the following: that citizens of the United States are restrained under sufficient penalties from entering upon the lands for the purpose of hunting thereon, or of settling them, or of giving their horses or cattle the benefit of a range upon them, or of travelling thro' them without a written permission; and that the President of the United States is authorised to employ the military force of the country to secure the observance of these provisions. The authority to the President, however, is not imperative. The language is "it shall be lawful for the President to take such measures, and to employ such military force as he may judge necessary to remove from lands, belonging to or secured by Treaty to any Indian Tribe any citizen who shall make a settlement thereon."

By the 19th. section of this act it is provided that nothing in it "shall be construed to prevent any trade or intercourse with Indians living on lands surrounded by settlements of citizens of the United States and being within the ordinary jurisdiction of any of the individual states."[1] This provision I have interpreted as being prospective in its operation, and as applicable not only to Indian tribes which at the date of its passage were subject to the jurisdiction of any state, but to such also as should thereafter become so. To this construction of its meaning I have endeavored to conform and have taken no step inconsistent with it. As soon therefore as the Sovereign power of the State of Georgia was exercised by an extension of her laws throughout her limits, and I had received information of the same, orders were given to withdraw from the State the troops which had been detailed to prevent intrusion upon the Indian lands within the same; and these orders were accordingly executed. The reasons which dictated them shall be frankly communicated.

The principle recognized in the section last quoted was not for the first time then avowed, ~~but had been acted upon long before~~. It is conformable to the uniform practice of the Government before the adoption of the constitution and amounts to a distinct recognition by congress at that early day of the doctrine that that instrument had not varied the powers of the Federal Government over Indian affairs from what they were under the articles of confederation. It is not believed that there is a single instance in the legislation of the country in which the Indians have been regarded as possessing political rights independent of the controul and authority of the States within the limits of which they resided other than such as ~~w~~here common to the rest of its Citizens. As early as the year 1782 the journals of Congress will shew that no claim of such a character was countenanced by that body. In that year the application of a tribe of Indians residing in So. Carolina to have certain tracts of land which had been reserved for their use in that state secured to them free from intrusion and without the

right of alienating them even with their own consent, was brought to the consideration of Congress by a report from the Secretary of War. The resolution which was adopted on that occasion is as follows "Resolved that it be recommended to the Legislature of So. Carolina to take such measures for the satisfaction and security of said tribes as the said Legislature in their wisdom may think fit." Here is no assertion of the right of Congress under the articles of confederation to interfere with the jurisdiction of the States over Indians within their limits; but rather a negation of it. They refused to interfere with the subject and referred it under a general recommendation back to the State to be disposed of as her wisdom might decide. [2]If in addition to this act and the language of the articles of confederation any thing further can be wanting to shew the early views of the Government on the subject it will be found in the proclamations issued by Congress in 1783. They contain this language, "the United States in Congress assembled have thought proper to issue their proclamation and they do hereby prohibit and forbid all persons from making settlements on lands inhabited or claimed by Indians, without the limits or jurisdiction of any particular state" and again "Resolved that the preceding measures of congress relative to Indian affairs, shall not be construed to affect the territorial claims of any of the States, in their legislative rights within their respective limits." It was not then pretended that the General Government had the power in their relations with the Indians to controul or oppose the internal polity of the individual states of this union; and if such was the case under the articles of confederation the only question on the subject since must arise out of some more enlarged power or authority given to the General Government by the present Constitution. Does any such exist?

Amongst the enumerated grants of the Constitution that which relates to this subject is found expressed in these words—"Congress shall have power to regulate commerce with the Indian Tribes." In the interpretation of this power we ought certainly to be guided by what had been the practice of the government and the meaning which had been generally attached to the resolves of the old Congress, if the words used to convey it do not clearly impart a different one as far as it affects the question of jurisdiction in the individual states. The states ought not to be divested of any part of their antecedent jurisdiction by implication or doubtful construction. Tested By this rule it seems to me to be unquestionable that the jurisdiction of the states is left untouched by this clause of the Constitution, and that it was designed to give to the General Government complete controul over the trade and intercourse of those Indians only who were not within the limits of any state. ~~The proclamation made by Congress in 1783 sustains this opinion. It reads thus~~

From a view of the acts referred to and the uniform practice of the Government it is manifest that until recently it has never been maintained that the right of jurisdiction by a state over Indians within its Territory

was subordinate to the power of the Federal Government. That doctrine has not been enforced nor even asserted in any of the States of New England where Tribes of Indians have resided and where a few of them yet remain. These Tribes have been left to the undisturbed controul of the States in which they were found in conformity with the view which has been taken of the opinions prevailing up to 1789 and the clear interpretation of the act of 1802. In the State of New York where several Tribes have resided it has been the policy of the Government to avoid entering into quasi Treaty engagements with them, barely appointing commissioners occasionally on the part of the United States to facilitate the objects of the State in its negotiations with them.

The southern States alone present an exception to this policy. As early as 1784 the ~~State of No. Carolina~~ settlements within the limits of No. Carolina were advanced farther to the west than the authority of the state to ~~exercise its *[protective]* care~~ ~~This was also the case with other~~ enforce an obedience of its laws. Others were in a similar condition. The necessities therefore, and not the acknowledged principles of the Government, must have suggested the policy of treating with the Indians in that quarter as the only practicable mode of conciliating their good will. The United States at that period had just emerged from a protracted war for the achievement of their independence. At the moment of its conclusion many of those tribes as powerful as they were ferocious in their mode of warfare remained in arms, desolating our frontier settlements. Under these circumstances the first Treaties in 1785 and 1790 with the Cherokees were concluded by the Government of the United States, and were evidently sanctioned as measures of necessity adapted to the character of the Indians and indispensable to the peace and safety of the western frontier. But they cannot be understood as changing the political relations of the Indians to the States or the Federal Government. To effect this would have required the operation of quite a different principle, and the intervention of a tribunal higher than that of the Treaty making power

To infer from the assent of the Government to this deviation from the practice which had before governed its intercourse with the Indians, and the accidental forbearance of the states to assert their right of jurisdiction over them, that they had surrendered this portion of their sovereignty and that its assumption now is usurpation, is conceding too much to the necessity which dictated those Treaties and doing violence to the principles of the Government and the rights of the States, without benefitteing in the least degree the Indians. The Indians thus situated cannot be regarded in any other light than as foreigners or citizens. If in the former the ordinary legislation of Congress in relation to them is not warranted by the constitution which was established for the benefit of our own, not a foreign people. If in the latter then like other citizens or people resident within the limits of the States they are subject to their jurisdiction and controul. To maintain a contrary doctrine, and to require the Executive to enforce

it by the employment of a military force would be to place in his hands a power to make war upon the rights of the states and the liberties of the country—a power which should be placed in the hands of no individual.

If indeed the Indians are to be regarded as a people possessing rights which they can exercise independently of the states, much error has arisen in the ~~practice of~~ intercourse of the Government with them. Why is it, that they have been called upon to assist in our wars without the priviledge of exercising their own discretion? If an independent people, they should as such be consulted and advised with, but they have not been. In an order which was issued to me from the War Department in Septr. 1814, this language is employed "all the friendly Indians should be organized and prepared to cooperate with your other forces. There appears to be some dissatisfaction among the Choctaws; their friendship and services should be secured without delay. The friendly Indians must be fed and paid *and made to fight when* and *where their services may be required*."[3] To an independent and foreign people this would seem to be assuming, I should suppose, rather too lofty a tone—one which the Government would not have assumed if they had considered them in that light.

The steps taken to prevent intrusion upon Indian lands had their origin with the commencement of our Government and became the subject of special legislation in 1802 with the reservations which have been mentioned in favor of the jurisdiction of the States. With the exception of South Carolina who has uniformly regulated the Indians within her limits without the aid of the General Government, ~~all the states in the south~~ they have operated within all the States of the south without being understood to affect their rights or prevent the exercise of their jurisdiction whenever they were in a situation to assume and enforce it. Georgia tho' materially concerned has on this principle forborne to spread her legislation further than the settlements of her own white citizens, until she has perceived within her jurisdiction recently a people claiming to be capable of self government, sitting in Legislative council, organizing courts, and administering justice. To ~~check~~ disarm such an anomalous invasion of her sovereignty she has declar~~ation~~ed her determination to execute her own laws throughout her limits—a step which ~~is warranted~~ seems to have been anticipated by the proclamation of 1783 and is perfectly consistent with the 19th. section of the act of 1802. According to the language and reasoning of that section the Tribes to the South and the South west are not only "surrounded by settlements of the citizens of the United States," but are also "within the ordinary jurisdiction of the individual states." They became so from the moment the laws of the state were extended over them, and the same result follows the similar determination of Alabama and Mississippi. These states have each a right to claim in behalf of their position now on this question the same respect which is conceded to the other states of the union.

Towards this race of people I entertain the kindest feelings; and am not sensible that the views which I have taken of their present situation are less favorable to their true interests than those which oppose their emigration to the west. Years since I stated to them my belief that if the States chose to extend their laws over them it would not be in the power of the Federal Government to prevent ~~them~~ it. My opinion remains the same; and I can see no altenative for them but that of their removal to the West or a quiet submission to the state laws. If they prefer to remove the United States agree to defray their expenses, supply them the means of transportation and a years support after they reach their new homes, ~~until then. Nor do I see that either alternative deserves the stamp of injustice~~ a provision too liberal and kind to deserve the ~~name~~ stamp of injustice. Either course promises them peace and happiness whilst an obstinate perseverance in the effort to maintain their possessions independent of the State authority cannot fail to render their situation still more helpless and miserable. Such an effort ought therefore to be discountenanced by all who sincerely sympathise in the fortunes of this peculiar people, and especially by the political bodies of the union as calculated to disturb the harmony of the two Governments and endanger the safety of the many blessings which they enable us to enjoy.

As connected with the subject of this inquiry I beg leave to refer to the accompanying letter from the Secy of War ~~with the~~ enclosing the orders which proceeded from that Department and a letter from the Govr. of Georgia on the subject.

Draft in AJ Donelson's hand, DLC (76). Drafts, DLC (76). DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0611). *SDoc* 65, 21st Cong., 2d sess., pp. 1–5 (Serial 204); Richardson, 2:536–41.

1. *Statutes*, 2:145.
2. The text from here to the end of the quotation is an insert from a separate page.
3. James Monroe to AJ, September 7, 1814 (*Jackson Papers*, 3:128).

From John Macpherson Berrien

Will the President be pleased to have a search made in the State Department, for a copy of the opinion of Judge Johnson on the law of South Carolina, concerning free colored persons coming into the State.

It will probably be found in the *National Intelligencer*, or certainly in some of the *Carolina papers* on file in that office.

[Endorsed by AJ:] The President with his respect to the Secretary of State will thank him to have furnished the opinion of judge Johnston in the case refered to in the inclosed note Febry 22nd. 1831—

AN, DNA-RG 59 (M179-70). William Johnson (1771–1834) of South Carolina was a Supreme Court justice, appointed by Jefferson in 1804. Van Buren referred Berrien's query to

State Department clerk Nicholas P. Trist, who in turn inquired of Johnson. Johnson replied on February 23 that he could not precisely date or cite the case, and that given the high feeling the subject had produced then and since, he wished a chance to speak with AJ or Van Buren before it was again brought up in public (DNA-RG 59, M179-70).

In 1822, South Carolina had enacted a law requiring that free blacks employed on any vessel entering a South Carolina port be seized and held in jail at the captain's expense until its departure. Sailors whose captain would not pay their costs of detention were to be sold as slaves. In the 1823 case of *Elkison v. Deliesseline*, concerning a British sailor arrested in Charleston, Johnson, sitting as a circuit judge, declared the law to be plainly unconstitutional, "altogether irreconcilable" with the federal government's treaty obligations and its powers over commerce. Johnson's ruling, which was highly unpopular in South Carolina, appeared in the Washington *Daily National Intelligencer* on September 8, 1823.

South Carolina's subsequent enforcement of the law (whose terms were slightly relaxed in 1823) was intermittent but tightened in 1830. The jailing of a free black British seaman named Daniel Fraser prompted British minister Charles Vaughan to address Van Buren on January 15, 1831, seeking assurance of future protection for British subjects as guaranteed by treaty (DNA-RG 59, M50-15). AJ referred Vaughan's remonstrance to Berrien, prompting this note. On March 25, Berrien submitted an opinion defending the constitutionality of the South Carolina statute as lying fully within the scope of the state's internal police powers and its "reserved rights of sovereignty." Berrien maintained that "the general right of a State to regulate persons of color within its own limits, is one too clearly recognised by the tenth amendment to the constitution to be drawn into controversy" (*HRDoc* 123, 26th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 817–26, Serial 387).

To Martin Van Buren

Feby 24th 1831

My Dr. Sir,

It was late to night before I could open your note & read the very interesting (private) letter of our mutual friend Mr McLane. On the subject it embraces I will be happy to converse with you as early as your leisure will permit

I am gratified to see that Mr Hunter speaks so confidently of his innocence & his willingness to meet his accuser

I regret that men of standing *[in]* society would make charges [. . .] on such a character as Mr Hunter describes his accuser to be[1]

I have had the promised interview with judge Thompson. I deeply feel for him as a parent, and for his daughter. I had these feelings when I reviewed this case before I acted, and often wished that I could consistant with duty, I might add, imperious duty, have set aside the finding of the court by a disaproval. I will refer it to the attorney Genl tomorrow.[2] I am your friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (17-0652).

1. Louis McLane (1786–1857) of Delaware was the U.S. minister to Great Britain, and Robert Robertson Hunter was the American consul at Cowes on the Isle of Wight. On November 29, 1830, sixteen Boston insurance company presidents headed by Samuel A. Wells had written AJ accusing Hunter of levying exorbitant and fraudulent charges

for his attentions to damaged American merchant ships (DNA-RG 59, M639-11). On December 11 AJ had ordered a thorough investigation by McLane, and Van Buren so instructed him on December 27 (DNA-RG 59, M77-73). On January 10, 1831, Hunter wrote Van Buren affirming his innocence and attributing the complaints to his former vice consul, John Wight Baker, whom he had dismissed for drunkenness. McLane gathered evidence from Hunter and others and on June 15 sent a report of it to Van Buren. A subsequent State Department report completely exonerated Hunter (DNA-RG 59, T239-2). He remained as consul until 1842.

2. Smith Thompson of New York was a Supreme Court justice. His daughter Mary Louisa (1801–1885) had married John Henry Clack (1791–1844), a Navy master commandant who was court-martialed in September 1830 on charges including cowardice, disobedience of orders, and ungentlemanly and unofficerlike conduct. Clack was found guilty and sentenced to dismissal from the service. AJ had approved the sentence on November 23, 1830, after carefully reviewing the lengthy trial transcript (*Jackson Papers*, 8:635). Smith Thompson and fellow Supreme Court justice Henry Baldwin subsequently appealed on Clack's behalf. On March 2, 1831, Berrien submitted an opinion that the absence of one of the court's five officers during much of the trial rendered its verdict legally void. AJ immediately nominated Clack to be restored to his rank, and the Senate confirmed him the next day, March 3.

From James Alexander Hamilton

[On February 17, John C. Calhoun published the Seminole correspondence in the United States' Telegraph *under the heading "To the People of the United States." Avowing motives only of self-defense, and tracing the origins of the affair to William H. Crawford's implacable enmity against himself, Calhoun presented thirty-five documents with explanatory notes. Included were three letters of 1827–29 to show Crawford's hand in fomenting the controversy, the nine letters Calhoun and Jackson had exchanged in 1830, six letters in 1818 between Jackson and President Monroe, and ancillary correspondence in 1830–31 involving Jackson, Calhoun, Crawford, Monroe, John Forsyth, George McDuffie, Robert S. Garnett, and Monroe's former Cabinet members William Wirt, John Quincy Adams, and Benjamin W. Crowninshield. Calhoun's publication also appeared as a pamphlet,* Correspondence between Gen. Andrew Jackson and John C. Calhoun, President and Vice-President of the U. States, on the Subject of the Course of the Latter, in the Deliberations of the Cabinet of Mr. Monroe, on the Occurrences in the Seminole War.

*Calhoun's publication included his long defense to Jackson of May 29, 1830. In that letter, he had recalled being asked by Hamilton in 1828 about Cabinet deliberations over the Seminole campaign, and he had remarked that that then seemingly innocent query, taken in connection with the blanking-out of a name in the papers Jackson had just confronted him with, might furnish the key to exposing "the contrivers of this plot" (*Jackson Papers, *8:318).*

Hamilton published a defense in the New York Evening Post *of February 24, 1831. He identified the omitted name as his own, denied*

plotting against Calhoun, and explained that he had originally approached both Calhoun and Crawford (through Forsyth) in 1828 not with intent to implicate either, but to gather evidence to defend Jackson himself against an expected campaign attack and also perhaps to effect a reconciliation between Jackson and Crawford. Hamilton said that only after Calhoun told him that arresting Jackson was "not thought of, much less discussed" in the Cabinet, and Crawford told Forsyth otherwise, had the matter taken a different turn.]

New York, February 24, 1831.

Dear Sir:

I have the pleasure to inclose to you herewith the *New York Evening Post*, containing my vindication from the charges insinuated against me in Mr. Calhoun's letters and address. I hope it will meet with your approbation. My object has been to avoid recrimination; to present myself to the public as an injured person, and so most assuredly I am; and to confine myself entirely to my own case. I have the best evidence to prove that Van Buren determined, before the letter was submitted to you, to have no concern in the matter; but as I did not know what his wishes were on the subject, I have refrained from any allusion to him. It is manifest that he is the object of attack, and that he must come out; and when that is done, if he gives me permission, I will publish such parts of our correspondence as will show he was wholly disconnected from the matter.[1] I have not written to you for a long time, because I did not choose to consume any portion of that time on which the public interests make such incessant claims. I hope you are in good health.

With the truest attachment, your friend, &c.

Printed, *Reminiscences of James A. Hamilton*, p. 196 (17-0650).

1. The letter "submitted to you" was Crawford's to Forsyth of April 30, 1830, given to AJ on May 12, 1830. Calhoun's *Telegraph* publication on February 17 did not directly accuse Van Buren in the "secret movements against me," though the implication was clear. Van Buren published a notice in the *Telegraph* on February 26 denying that he had ever had any agency, knowledge, or interest in the Seminole controversy or in efforts to estrange AJ from Calhoun.

From Lewis Cass

Detroit Feby. 25. 1831

Sir,

It is with much gratification, that I do myself the honour to transmit to you, the accompanying resolution of the Legislative Council of this Territory. Not that our approbation is of the least ~~importance~~ consequence to you, or to the character of your administration. But ~~because~~ as the measure alluded is the most important event for the present security

and ultimate prosperity of the northwestern frontier, which has occurred since the late war, and ~~because~~ as its accomplishment has been as unexpected as it ~~was~~ is gratifying, I trust you will not deem this expression of the feelings of the Legislative Council & of their constituents improper nor obtrusive. Very respectfully, Sir, I have the honour to be your obt Sevt

AL draft, DLC-Henry R. Schoolcraft Papers (17-0654). Cass (1782–1866) was governor of Michigan Territory. Below is a copy of the resolution, which Cass sent to Eaton this same day (*SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 413–14, Serial 245).

[Resolutions of the Michigan Territory Legislative Council]

"Resolved by the Legislative Council of the Territory of Michigan, That in the Treaty recently concluded at Washington under the superintendence of the Secretary of War, and by direction of the President of the United States, by which the Menominies have ceded to the United States, a valuable region upon Lake Michigan, and have made a liberal provision for the present and future residence of the New York Indians, this Territory, and in fact the Northwestern country generally have reason to be highly gratified. This cession is fertile and valuable, and it will ensure a speedy settlement upon a frontier, which has been much exposed; and is yet among the weakest in the union. It opens to our citizens almost the whole coast of Lake Michigan from the mouth of Green Bay to the mouth of Grand River, a region which will ere long become the home of an industrious and enterprizing population. This Council recognize in the liberal stipulations made in favor of the North Western Indians, a determination on the part of the Government, to treat them humanely, and to secure to them a consideration far more important in their actual situation, than that portion of their hunting grounds, which they have ceded. If the New York Indians are not prevented from accepting the ample provision made for them, their long pending difficulties with the Menominies will be terminated, and every impediment removed to their own permanent prosperity, and to the immediate occupation and settlement of the country. In this arrangement, evidence is also furnished, to those by whom such evidence could be required, that the views of the President are not directed by sectional considerations, but that the north and the South are equally the objects of his care and attention.

Resolved that the Governor be requested to transmit to the President of the United States a copy of this resolution."

(Signed) A. Edwards, President of the Legislative Council.

The foregoing is certified to be a true copy of the original resolution, adopted by the Legislative Council of the Territory of Michigan, Feby 24. 1831.

E. A. Brush Secretary

Copy, DNA-RG 75 (17-0655). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 414–15 (Serial 245). *TPUS*, 12:259–60. Abraham Edwards (1781–1860), a former Army surgeon and officer, had just been appointed register of the Monroe, Mich., land office. Edmund Askin Brush (1802–1877) was the council secretary.

From William Hendricks

Senate Chamber Feb. 28. 1831.

Sir

Understanding and believing that the practice of disinterment is too common and too much encouraged here I feel anxious for the protection for a while of Genl. Noble's grave. I do not know of any means within my own power for accomplishinging this object and request of you an order for ~~a~~ detail of a guard from the marine barracks for that purpose to be continued as long as danger may be thought to exist. I make this request with great hesitation owing to its novelty but hope you will appreciate the motive and excuse if you see any thing improper in it I wd gladly know this afternoon ~~if~~ whether you approve or disapprove of this application[.] With profound respect

William Hendricks

ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-126). Hendricks (1782–1850) was a U.S. senator from Indiana. James Noble, Indiana's other senator, had died February 26 and was buried in the Congressional Cemetery on February 28. Robbing corpses from graves during the ten days or so before they began to decompose was a common means of procuring cadavers for medical study.

To John Henry Eaton

Febry 28th. 1831

Dr Sir

Governor Hendricks has waited upon me to obtain a guard from the Marine Corps to guard the Tomb of the Honble. Mr Noble this day intered. It has been whispered that the faculty here are in the habit of raising & disecting the bodies intered within this City—for your information I enclose Govr. Hendricks written request on this subject. If my power is coexstensive with the object required you will order the guard required for the space of Eight days. But as it is a novel case reflect on the matter, as I write in great haste & on the moment of the application. The guard to be *effectual* must be there to night.—yr.

Andrew Jackson

Please write Governor Hendricks this evening on this subject & inform if the guard has been ordered

ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-126). Navy secretary John Branch had charge of the Marine Corps. Eaton forwarded AJ's note and Hendricks's letter to him with a request to immediately issue the necessary order (DNA-RG 45, M124-126).

To John Overton

to Frelinhausen' resolution has put the Indian question to rest. Several of the opposition have declared that they never understood the question before, nor never had believed that such a declaration as the 19th. section of the act of 1802 contains, was incorporated in the law. I believe it has opened the eyes of some of the judges.[1]

I enclose you a resolution of the Republicans of Newyork just sent me by Mr Van Buren, with a request that I should, with his respects inclose one to you, I with pleasure comply with it.[2]

you shall have as soon as I can have it copied a copy of your letter to me which you have requested.

I am calmly looking at the controversy, will take no part, unless to have Genl Green put right when he misrepresents. I will write you asoon after the rise of congress as I can—*read* the *Globe*—you will see the nulifier, nulified, and poor Genl Green compleatly prostrated by his own folly—*it is his own act*, & against all admonition—his vanity has no control.[3]

I am afraid our friend Mrs. White will never leave the city. I saw her yesterday, she hopes to get home, I would to god she might, but I am afraid providence will not permit it. Present me kindly to your lady & family and believe me your friend.

Andrew Jackson

ALS fragment, THi (17-0673). Endorsed in margin "Extract Feby 28th 1831."

1. The Supreme Court was in session and readying to hear argument in *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*.

2. On February 21, "Democratic Republican" New York legislators meeting at the statehouse in Albany adopted resolutions praising AJ's administration and nominating him for reelection.

3. Duff Green (1791–1875) edited the *United States' Telegraph*, which the *Globe* had supplanted as the administration's newspaper voice.

Charles Jared Ingersoll to John Forsyth

28 Feb. 31
Harrisburgh

Dr. Sir

The late publication by the Vice President caused me to send home for the enclosed, viz, an article in print vindicating the Seminole campaign and a letter from Mr. Monroe written to me in acknowledgment of that

article. Perhaps the letter may shed some light on the affair in question between the President and Vice President. As I presume that Mr. Monroe can have no objection to my communicating his letter. I therefore send you these papers that you may if you think proper show them to General Jackson. Please to take care of and return them to yrs alway sincerely

C. J. Ingersoll

Copy, DLC (39). Ingersoll (1782–1862), a Philadelphian, had been U.S. district attorney in Pennsylvania from 1815 until removed by AJ in 1829. He had published an article justifying AJ's Seminole campaign in the Philadelphia *Democratic Press* on July 18, 1818, and sent it to Monroe the next day. He now enclosed to Forsyth Monroe's reply of July 24, 1818 (DLC-25). In it, Monroe said that AJ "acted without authority, and even against his orders," in seizing the Spanish posts, but that the administration, while returning them, would justify AJ on the legitimate grounds of Spanish provocation. Monroe opined that this middle course of showing Spain neither belligerence nor weakness would soon compel Spain to cede Florida to the U.S.

From Joseph Inslee Anderson

[This undated letter was probably written near the end of February 1831. On February 22, five days after publishing Calhoun's exposition on the Seminole controversy, the United States' Telegraph *published Crawford's October 2, 1830, letter to Calhoun, in which Crawford claimed that Jackson's January 6, 1818, letter had been brought before Monroe's Cabinet and had changed his own mind, but not Calhoun's, against punishing Jackson. The* Telegraph *charged that Crawford's letter contained "palpable errors" which were "numerous and fatal" to his credibility. Anderson (1757–1837) had been first comptroller of the Treasury since 1815 and before that a U.S. senator from Tennessee.]*

Washington City.

Dear Sir

In a conversation, which I had with you, at your office, some days since—the Subject of the correspondence which had recently passed between you, and Mr Calhoun, and which had been published was introduced. In the course of our conversation upon the Subject, I took occasion to remark, that I had seen in the Telegraph, published by Mr Green of this City, some very severe strictures, in relation to some statements, that had been made, in the letters of Mr Crawford, which had been published forming a part of the correspondence, above refered to—the strictures thus made, in the Telegraph, I believed, in several respects to be incorrect, and under this impression, I observed, that I considered it due to Mr Crawford, and to you, to state to you, (which I then did) the substance of several conversations, which I had, had, with Mr Crawford, shortly after

several Cabinet meetings, which had been held, upon the Subject of the Seminole War—so called. Within a few days after the conversation, thus stated, to have been held with you—I had Occasion to call upon, respecting some public business, and when I was about to retire, you observed to me, that you had been reflecting upon the Subject of our conversation, in relation to the communications made to me by Mr Crawford, which I had imparted to you, and Observed that from the consideration, which you had given to the Subject, you were of Opinion, that it might be beneficial to you, to have the information, which I had verbally given to you, committed to writing, and that if I had no Objection, you woud thank me to make you, a communication in writing upon the subject, and to state substantially, what I had communicated to you in conversation. In reply you will no doubt recollect, I observed, that although the information which had been given to me by Mr Crawford, was not communicated as confidential, yet under the peculiar circumstances in which it had been communicated to me—it might be matter for consideration, whether it woud be proper, to communicate it to you, in the manner you requested, without consulting him upon the subject. In reply to these remarks, you Observed, that you woud be satisfied, with whatever course, I might deem proper to adopt. I have deliberately considered the whole subject matter of the case, and have concluded, that inasmuch, as Mr Crawford has published, substantially the same matter, that he communicated to me (the correctness of which having been called in question in the Telegraph) and that inasmuch as the communication, I made to you, and which you requested me to make in writing, will conduce as well to his (Mr Crawfords) as to your benefit—I do not conceive that there can be any *special necessity*, to ask Mr Crawfords permission, to communicate to you in writing, the substance of several conversations, which I had with him upon, the Subject of the Seminole War—immediately after several Cabinet meetings, had been held upon that subject. These conversations, it must be remembered, were had with me, *at a time* when Mr Crawford, had no kind of misunderstanding whatever, with any member of the *then* Cabinet. Before I proceed to state the conversations which I had with Mr Crawford, it may be proper to remark, that immediately after the information reched this City, as to the course you had adopted, in the prosecution of the Seminole War, and the result thereof—I took Occasion to express my Opinion, in support of the course you had pursued, and communicated my views thereon fully and freely to President Monroe, the first time I saw him after the information was received—and in sundry conversations, with other persons, I gave it as my Opinion, that you were fully Justified, according to a fair and Just interpretation of the law of nations, in the Military measures which you had pursued, in *consideration* of the *peculiar circumstances* in which you were placed, even if your instructions or orders were silent in relation to such a course of measures. Thus impressed, it will be readily supposed, that I felt much interested, to know

the result of the cabinet meeting, which I understood was to be held, upon the Subject of the Seminole War—and as Mr Crawford was one of the members of the Cabinet, and at *that time*, an influential one—and as I had been for many years, in habits of great intimacy with him—I determined to endeavour to ascertain from him, the result of the Cabinet meeting. I accordingly called on him, at his Office, the day after the meeting was held, and after a few general observations—I told Mr Crawford, that I felt much interested, as to the course, which the Executive might adopt, in relation to the manner in which General Jackson, had conducted the Seminole War, and that if it was a fair question, I shoud be much gratified to know, whether any decision had been made by the Cabinet—and if so—what that decision was. Mr Crawford replied, that the subject had been under consideration, and that it had—been pretty fully discused, but that no final decision had been made—and he said, that *he* and Mr *Calhoun*, were of opinion, that the Conduct of General Jackson, ought to be *inquird* into, from which I inferd, that they were of opinion, that the conduct of General Jackson, ought to be brought before a Court of enquiry—for I know of no other manner, in which the Conduct of a Military officer, coud be enquired into, than that of being brought before a Court of enquiry. Mr Crawford further Observed, that Mr Adams differd in opinion with him and Mr Calhoun, and that he had expressd himself strongly, in support of the Course which had been adopted by General Jackson. I do not recollect that Mr Crawford, made any mention of the Opinions of the other members of the Cabinet (the Secretary of the Navy and the Attorney General) In reply to the information thus given me by Mr Crawford, I observed, that I was extremely sorry, that he and Mr Calhoun, entertaind the opinions which he had expressed, and that whatever might be the utimate decision of the Cabinet, in relation to the manner in which General Jackson had conducted the Seminole War—that I felt perfectly satisfied, that he woud be sustaind by a large majority of the nation, and most especially be the whole western people—no further remarks, that I now recollect, were then made by Mr Crawford. Not long after this conversation, but how long, I do not now recollect, another Cabinet meeting was held—and being as I was before, extremely anxious to know the result of the meeting—I called the day after the meeting, at Mr Crawfords Office—and after a few remarks, I asked him, if he coud, or woud, tell me the result of the meeting—he promptly replied—(as nearly as I can recollect in the following words) Judge, my opinion is completely changed, I have seen a letter, shewn me by the President—(as I understood him at the Cabinet meeting) that has perfictly satisfied me, that General Jackson was fully Justified, in the course he adopted in the prosecution of the Seminole War, in every respect; and he added *they* dare not take a single step against him, he has them, said he, completely in his power, and if they were to make a single move against him, he woud prostrate them before the nation—the nation—said he, will support him. This

was very gratifying information to me; and I made no enquiry, as to the nature or Character of the letter; It was sufficent for me, that it had produced so strong a conviction upon the mind of Mr Crawford, as to have totally changed his opinion—after having receivd this information, I asked Mr Crawford, what had been the decision of the Cabinet if any had been made, I understood him to say, that Mr Adams as Secretary of State, had been directed by the President to prepare such a paper, as the Occasion seemed to call for—not long after this conversation, I again saw Mr Crawford, when he informed me, that Mr Adams, conformably to what he had considered the decision of the Cabinet, presented such a view of the whole case, as the subject seemed to him to require, but that the view presented by Mr Adams, was considered to be expressed in too strong language, or words to that effect, and that he was required to modify it, which he accordingly did. I have thus in compliance with your request, presented the substance of several conversations, which I had with Mr Crawford upon the subject of the Seminole War; and if it shall conduce in any way to your benefit, I shall be highly gratified. I have the honor to be with great Respect, your most Obed Servt

Jos Anderson

[Endorsed by AJ:] This was amonghst the first information that I had, that Mr. Crawford had ben charged wrongfully A. J.

ALS, TNJ (17-0065).

From John Rhea

Tennessee Blountville February 1831

Dear President

Some days past I wrote to you in answer to your letter to me. in that letter I mentioned the names of two Gentlemen. I did not nor do intend to intimate that either of them know of the letter you allude to, but only that they or either of them might know of the design respecting you—that our friend from N. *[J.]* was ignorant of that business, is most probable—so may the other also—you may however get some information.

I observe by my papers that you was in Washington in January eighteen hundred and nineteen—as yet nothing more. at that time I was continually occupied with the business before the committee of pensions and revolutionary claims and therefore I desire to have something to bring matters fully to my recollection. you did not write it to me but I see by the Newspapers what is going on. I request you to send to me at Blountville a copy of the letter (in which you mention my name) to Mr. Monroe. I am desirous to have it and trust all will come to light. as you are on the defensive I will help you all I can. I desire nothing to be known of me in

the buisness, untill I speak out as fully myself as I can and therefore this letter so far *Confidential Confidential*—

We have had a very inclement time—frost snow rain and Storm. the day the snow fell (friday) I rode on my horse twelve miles, without being off him and was nearly frozen. pushing to be at Washington previous to the rise of Congress I attended not to the fury of the Elements: but I am hindered. however I will be with you as soon as I can, if the Almighty who governs all will permit.

Accept my best wishes—believe me to be—truely your friend and Servant

John Rhea of Tennessee

ALS, DLC (39). Rhea wrote again on March 30 (below).

Draft on the Seminole Controversy

[In a second publication in the United States' Telegraph *on February 25, Calhoun traced "this artful conspiracy against my character" back from the entrapping inquiries put to him in early 1828 by Van Buren's friend James A. Hamilton, through their instigator William B. Lewis in Nashville, and finally to Crawford, who on December 14, 1827, wrote Alfred Balch in Nashville hoping "that Calhoun will not be benefitted by Jackson's election" (*Calhoun Papers*, 11:342–50, 10:555–56). On February 26, the* Telegraph *published a statement furnished by Van Buren disclaiming any part in the affair. On February 28, the* Telegraph *charged that in disavowing a role for himself in the plot to injure Calhoun, Van Buren in effect acknowledged that the plot existed. On March 2, the* Globe *published a rebuttal to the* Telegraph*, laying out an alternative origin for the queries by Hamilton in 1828 that had led to the revelations about Calhoun's stance in the Cabinet. This text by Jackson is a draft of the* Globe *article.]*

sometime in the year 1826, the genl was furnished by a member of Congress with a statement of Doctor Wallace of Fredericksburgh Virginia, that Mr Southard then Sec. of the Navy, at a wine drinking in Fredericksburgh, had stated that Genl Jackson deserved no credit for the defence of Neworleans, that it belonged to Mr Monroe, that Genl Jackson had left the army without orders was returning home, when Mr Monroe then Sec. of War, met him with a positive order to return to the army forthwith—that this order with the active preparations made by Mr Monroe, & promply carried into execution enabled the Genl to make the defence he did; therefore, the credit was due to Mr Monroe, & not to Genl Jackson.[1] This was so injurious to the character of the Genl, & unfounded in fact, that the Genl. enclosed the statement of Doctor

Wallace to Sec. Southard, and asked him if the statement was correct, and if correct, thro whom he received the information thus publickly made—The secretary replied in a very lengthly & diplomatic letter, without giving any one as his informant, but stating that he had it from the history of the times written printed & verbal. The Genl never having either left the army, or slept out of his camp when he had one replied to Mr Southard as he thought justice & truth warranted. The coalition prints, commented with great bitterness on this correspondence threatened to publish it & brought into full review the Seminole business & hinted at a confidential letter written to Mr Monroe, that would destroy the Genl—& charged him with violation of orders & of the constitution &c &c &c.[2]

Whilst the presses were abusing the Genl, the 8th. of january 1827, was celebrated by the republicans in the City of Washington, at which the Genl was toasted—his friend judge White of the Senate rose & gave thanks for the sentiment given expatiated upon his services &c &c. This speech, ~~it appears~~ gave offence to Mr Monroe, & he addressed judge White upon the subject, to which the judge responded. The Genl was advised of this, & that Mr Monroe was about to write a book upon the subject. My friends began to prepare for defence[3]—about this period a member of Congress, wrote & enclosed to the Genl a copy of a letter purporting to be from Mr Monroe to Mr Calhoun (confidential) which from its tenor, was to induce Mr Calhoun to enter into a friendly & confidential correspondence with the Genl to draw from him an acknowledgement that in his operations in Florida that he had transcended his orders, in which it was stated, that the Genl had assumed the ground, that he had not, and there was nothing on record that shew that he had, & in which it was further stated, that Mr Monroe accompanied this confidential letter with one for the genl which he requested Mr Calhoun carefully to examine & if he approved it to send it, if not to return it with his remarks.[4] The letter refered to was found on the Genls files, The member of Congress stated that he understood this was by the acquiescence of Mr Calhoun & the original would be placed in the hands of the Genl by the Gentleman who had handed the copy. The Genl afterwards recd. the original from the hands of a friend of Mr Calhouns, as advised in the letter of the member of Congress.[5] The Genl having always understood Mr Calhoun to have been his supporter throughout, & believing him a high minded honorable man, & never having recd. any communication from him as sugested in the confidential letter of Mr Monroe, he readily believed, as ~~the~~ a Book was to be written & the Seminole campaign to be again discussed, that he could not as an honorable friend withold a knowledge of this letter from the Genl, as there never had been an intimation from the President or himself until the campaign was ended, that the Genl had transcended his orders—at the close of the campaign the Genl was expected by all his friends to die, as his health was such that it was supposed he could not recover.[6]

Some short time after the original letter before spoken of was handed to the Genl, he recd. a letter from Mr. C. stating that he had been informed that a confidential letter from Mr. Monroe to him had been placed in ~~my~~ his hands, & requesting the Genl to inform him if it was so, & if so, thro what channel ~~I~~ he had recceived it. The Genl being assured in his own mind that no person about him could have given the information, the Genl replied that he had recd. such a letter, that it was then in his possession, that first the copy & afterwards the original as had been stated in the letter convaying the copy, "that it was understood to be by the acquiescence & consent of Mr Calhoun that it was furnished, and if he Mr. C. would inquire of those who informed him that such letter was in ~~my~~ his hands, they could give him more information, than ~~I~~ he could about it. Mr Calhoun ~~replied~~ requested a return of the letter, and denied that he had any knowledge of how it had got out of his possession That it would have been dishonorable in him to have violated the confidence reposed by Mr Monroe# (#how has confidence been kept with my letters, where has honor fled to.) The original letter was forthwith returned to him.[7] The Genl knows not how the letter got out of Mr. C. possession, unless as stated by the member of congress, before related. The member of Congress situation was ~~not~~ such as forbid his having any knowledge of the existance of such a letter, and the gentleman who handed the Genl the original was always understood to be the friend of Mr Calhoun, and too high in honorable feelings, to have any thing to do in obtaining it illicitly, and must have believed that it left the possession of Mr. C. by his consent. It was The controversy that had arisen with Mr Sec. Southard & between Mr Munroe & Judge White and the alusions in the public prints to his confidential letter of the Genl to Mr Monroe relating to the Seminole War, that was to be published that the general always understood to be the causes that led his friends to enter on the inquiry as to the facts that had taken place in Mr Monroes Cabinet pending the discussion of the Seminole War—Not a combination against Mr Calhoun, because he never had been suspected by the Genl or his real friends of being any thing but the true unerring thorough friend of the Genl. It was Mr Crawford that had been charged with it—and Mr Monroe had declared that no such movement had been made in his cabinet against the Genl by others it was stated there had been. Therefore Mr Crawford had been wrongfully blamed. That these facts might be fairly assertained, was the object of all inquiries about this matter as the general understood.

AD, DLC (73; 14-1229).

1. Samuel Lewis Southard (1787–1842) was secretary of the Navy under Monroe and Adams from 1823 to 1829. His purported remarks at a private dinner at Fredericksburg held around July 1, 1826, were reported by physician John Hooe Wallace (1793–1872), one of those present, to Samuel Houston, then a Tennessee congressman, who in turn reported them to AJ (*Jackson Papers*, 6:227–29, 241–42).

2. AJ wrote Southard on January 5, 1827. Southard replied on February 9, denying Wallace's report of his remarks. He said he had not criticized AJ or accused him of leaving his post, but merely defended Monroe against others present who, in praising AJ, had accused the War Department of leaving him to fight "without arms, means or money." To this Southard said he had answered that he believed Monroe had done everything possible before the battle to supply troops, arms, information, and instructions, and "that without Mr. Monroes exertions, it could not probably have been won, as it was won." AJ sent Southard a censorious reply on March 6, 1827 (*Jackson Papers*, 6:255–56, 288–90, 296–99). Monroe had been both Secretary of State and of War during the New Orleans campaign in 1814–15.

3. A public dinner celebrating the victory at New Orleans was held at Williamson's Hotel in Washington on January 8, 1827. Hugh L. White followed a toast to AJ as "The Hero who has filled the measure of his country's glory" with a speech claiming that in order to win the battle, AJ had had to nearly create his own army and had "himself supplied the implements of war, which his government had not placed within his reach" (*US Telegraph*, January 11, 1827). Monroe wrote White on January 26 in remonstrance. He insisted that "nothing was omitted on my part, that was necessary for the defense of that City," and he recited a litany of measures he had ordered for that purpose (DLC-72). White wrote back on January 29 that he had not meant to accuse Monroe, but had simply stated known facts about the shortage of arms at New Orleans (DLC-34). Meanwhile, White had written AJ on January 17 that Monroe felt "not only injured but offended by what I said" and might be preparing a publication in rebuttal (*Jackson Papers*, 6:264). On February 4, Eaton wrote AJ to warn that Monroe might also have been behind Southard's remarks, and that he "is not & never was any friend of yours" (*Jackson Papers*, 6:277–78). AJ in turn began gathering materials for a possible publication of his own.

4. On July 19, 1818, Monroe wrote AJ privately that in taking the Spanish posts he had transcended his orders and acted on his own responsibility, but that the administration would justify his actions as provoked by Spanish officials who had aided the Seminoles against him. AJ wrote back on August 19 that he had not transcended orders but had been given "*entire discretion*" to suppress the Seminoles by any means he chose, the previous orders to Gaines not to attack the Spanish posts not being applicable to him (*Jackson Papers*, 4:224–28, 236–39). On September 9, Monroe wrote Calhoun proposing to invite AJ to state his understanding of his orders for the official record, in the hope that by that means the affair may "be terminated, to the satisfaction of all parties" (*Calhoun Papers*, 3:113–15). Accordingly, on October 20 Monroe wrote AJ suggesting that he write the War Department to clarify the "difference of opinion" over his orders (Bassett, 2:398). AJ declined on November 15, saying the administration had always known how he understood his orders and that the official record exhibited "no ground to believe that a difference of opinion exists" (*Jackson Papers*, 4:246–48).

5. On January 13, 1827, Samuel Houston sent AJ a copy of Monroe's September 9, 1818, letter to Calhoun. He had obtained it from Henry Lee, who later gave AJ the original (*Jackson Papers*, 6:261–63, 376). In his second *Telegraph* publication, Calhoun charged that this letter had been "purloined" from him and interpreted out of context to set AJ against either Monroe, as he had supposed on first discovering its theft, or himself.

6. The *Globe* article explained this more fully: AJ believed when he received the letter in 1827 that Calhoun was furnishing it to him in friendship, to help in his defense against an anticipated hostile publication by Monroe.

7. Houston's January 13, 1827, letter to AJ, conveying the copy and promising the original of Monroe's September 9, 1818, letter to Calhoun, did not mention Calhoun's "acquiescence" but instead clearly intimated that the letter had been obtained surreptitiously. Calhoun wrote AJ on April 30, 1828, requesting its return and saying that its theft "was doubtless the work of an enemy for the foulest purpose," but "whether it was enmity to you to Mr Monroe, or myself, I know not." AJ returned the letter on May 25, saying that it, "taken in connection with Mr Southards wine drinking speech and other rumors of the day,

truly astonished me. I am not yet free from surprise, and upon some other occasion may ask you for an explanation." Calhoun replied on July 10, 1828, reiterating that Monroe's letter was being maliciously misread. Its only "object was to place your conduct, as well as that of the Government on the high grounds, on which it ought to stand, by each side presenting fully and distinctly on the records of the government its views in regard to the orders, under which you acted." But neither AJ's vindication nor the executive's rested on interpreting his orders. "It is sufficient for both, that they were honestly issued and honestly executed, without involving the question, whether they were executed strictly in accordance with the intention that they were issued. Honest and patriotick motives are all, that can be required, and I never doubted but that they existed on both sides" (*Jackson Papers*, 6:450–51, 461–63, 480–81).

March



From Samuel Emerson Smith

[In his annual message to the legislature on January 8, 1831, new Maine governor Samuel Emerson Smith (1788–1860) voiced concern about the pending boundary arbitration between the U.S. and Britain. He remarked that Maine "has never assented to a compromise of her rights by arbitration," nor had the federal government claimed "power to alienate, by negociation or otherwise," land "from the jurisdiction of a sovereign State." Smith also questioned whether William I of the Netherlands was fit to act as neutral arbiter after the Belgian revolt of 1830 had reduced him to Britain's "dependent ally" (Portland Eastern Argus, *January 11, 1831).*

*On February 28, the Maine legislature adopted a set of resolutions in response to Smith's message. The resolutions rehearsed the historical and geographical arguments in support of Maine's claim to all the disputed territory, denied to the federal government any power "to dismember a State," and warned that exercise of such power would extinguish republican liberty and "break down and absorb all the State sovereignties" within a single consolidated, unchecked, central authority. The resolutions declared that submitting the boundary question to arbitration "tended to violate the Constitution of the United States and to impair the sovereign rights and powers of the State of Maine," and that Maine was not in any way bound by the result. Echoing Smith, the resolutions also challenged William I's fitness to serve as arbiter (*Resolves of the Eleventh Legislature of the State of Maine, *pp. 242–46).*

On March 1, the day after the resolutions were adopted and the day before Smith sent them on to Jackson, the Portland Eastern Argus *reported the first news from the London* Morning Herald *of William I's award.]*

Executive Department of Maine.
Portland, March 2. 1831

Sir,

In pursuance of a Resolve of the Legislature of the State of Maine, I have the honor herewith to transmit to the Executive of the United States the accompanying Resolutions in relation to the disputed boundary

between this State and the British Province of New Brunswick, and its submission to the arbitrament of the King of the Netherlands.

In communicating these Resolutions permit me respectfully to suggest to the President, that the subject is viewed with deep interest by the people of the State, whose official agent I am, and their feelings have become much excited in relation to it, as well from a full conviction of the incontrovertible justice of their claim, as from the consideration that they have never consented in any manner to compromise or surrender it.

Since the passing of these Resolutions, a rumor has become current, on the authority of ~~the~~ a London Paper, that a decision of the question has been made by the umpire, whereby the territory in dispute has been divided, and the boundaries, as designated by treaties, have been totally disregarded. Should this report prove to be founded in fact, a strong hope is entertained by the people here, that the decision will not be ratified by the authority of the United States, as it is a departure from the terms of the submission, and the establishment of an entirely new boundary is an assumption of power by the umpire, which was never delegated to him.

Under the existing circumstances, we feel authorized, by the provisions of the Federal Constitution, with confidence to appeal to the constituted authorities of the nation, to sustain us in the enforcement of our rights, and to protect the territory of our State from foreign invasion.[1]

Please to accept of my assurances of the highest, and most sincere respect.

Saml. E. Smith

ALS, DNA-RG 76; Copy, DNA-RG 46 (17-0742). "Northeast Boundary," pp. 60–61. Smith sent his letter and the legislative resolutions to AJ through Van Buren. Van Buren received them on March 8 and replied for AJ on March 9 that official notice of the arbitrator's award had not yet arrived and that a copy would be sent on promptly when it did. Van Buren offered AJ's assurance that the Maine resolutions would "receive all the attention of the Executive of the United States, to which the importance and delicacy of the points embraced in those Resolves, and the deep interests which they involve, as well as the high respectability of the source from which they emanate, so eminently entitle them" (DNA-RG 59, M40-22; *SDoc* 3, 22d Cong., 1st sess., p. 2, Serial 212).

1. The constitution pledges that the "United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government, and shall protect each of them against Invasion."

From the New York Indians of Green Bay

Washington City, March 4: 1831

Father,

We are grieved to learn, that Col. Stambeaugh will be sent by you again to Green Bay. We, your children, are afflicted. We have been spoken ill against by Col Stambeaugh & others. Col. Stambeaugh came to us at Green Bay, & said: 'I have been deceived about your cause, & am

convinced you are in the right. Come—go with me & with your brethren, the Menominies to your Great Father at Washington, & I will tell him the truth, & he will set these things right." This, Father, is the substance of what Col. Stambeaugh said to us—assuring us, that the difficulties would be settled to our satisfaction. Then we came down, because Col. Stambeaugh wanted us to come, & said he would be our friend. But, Father, we have been deceived. Col. Stambeaugh has turned against us, & made our affairs more difficult, than they ever were before. And now, Father, it has become our painful duty, which we owe to ourselves, to our people, to truth & justice, earnestly to pray you will not send Col. Stambeaugh again to Green Bay. His feelings have now got to be such, that we have reason to fear he will only stir up difficulty. He does not love us. He is no longer our friend. ~~He has threatened to~~ We are afraid he will do us hurt.

Father, we pray you to send us a good man—& we do assure you, that by the help of such a good man, we might settle all our difficulties, & by the next snow come down here, & ask you to look & say: 'It is all right & good'—& then we & our children shall always live in peace.

Father, we know certainly, that we have been spoken evil against—& that if you knew the truth, you would have pity on us. We are distressed. We pray, that you will not listen to our enemies & that you will wait till you know all.

We have always had great confidence in our Father Gov. Cass—till three summers ago, he did one thing, which made us afraid of him. But when we came down last fall, we had a talk with him. And he said, he did not mean us any harm—that he was our friend—& that our Father the President would be our friend. We think, Great Father, that when we shall see Governor Cass again, whom you have been pleased to appoint as our Father in your place at Detroit, & who knows about these matters, that he & us & our brethren the Menominies will be able to agree upon a man to be our agent, who will be agreeable to our Father, the President, & who will help us to settle all our difficulties.

Great Father. We have reason to feel & to be persuaded, that Col. Stambeaugh will not do us good, nor be able to bring these matters towards a settlement & that they will grow worse in his hands. And therefore we pray—that you will not send him.

Draft, InHi (17-0810). AJ had given Stambaugh a recess appointment as Indian agent at Green Bay in June 1830 and sent his nomination to the Senate in December. The Senate rejected him on March 3, 1831, by 18 to 21. On April 23, Eaton appointed him to escort the Menominees back to Green Bay (*TPUS*, 12:279–81). He continued to act as their de facto agent until George Boyd was appointed agent at Green Bay in 1832.

From William Hendricks

Washington City March 5. 1831.

Dear Sir

I made you a farewell call to day but had not the pleasure of seeing you. You was absent at the War Dept.

I drop you this line enclosing a letter to you intended to be presented if that to which it refers should have come to hand, and learning this to be the case I send it. It will perhaps cast some light on a transaction of which Mr. Nathan B. Palmer of Indiana is prime mover and which was not intended to be made known to me I have *many* ~~other~~ letters directed to myself on the same subject and from Gentlemen of the same political party I am well assured that several gentlemen who did sign the paper forwarded to you would not have done so on more reflection, or if they had sufficiently reflected on the use to be made of it. This stabbing in the dark no man can like and Palmer is a man of that class wholly unprincipled. Bright who was here some time ago and who probably brought the paper on is an intimate associate of Palmer in such deeds of darkness. He came on here to get an appointment for his father in the land office ~~about~~ expected to be established in Indiana The office had failed before his arrival and he may not have made known his business.[1] Palmer & Bright are both bitter personal enemies of mine. They go *for office* are *unprincipalled* and *unworthy your patronage* They think me in their way. Bright edits a paper in Madison of which Palmer is believed to be a dormant partner and had I the files of that paper I could shew that last summer they indirectly attacked your administration for the purpose of attacking me in reference to my votes confirming appointments.[2] I am well assured that no man can detest such conduct and such characters more than you. I shewed you heretofore a handbill of this man Palmer published on the eve of an election in 1829: he then being a candidate for the State Senate, in which to conciliate my friends he pledged himself very broadly if elected to vote for me to the U.S. Senate.[3] I shall never ask your patronage not wishing for any thing within its range. I have no political claims upon you, but feel as though I deserved your good opinion as an honest man. This, if I enjoy it, I do not wish to be deprived of by such men as I have just named. I assure you they are unworthy your confidence and hope they may not receive your patronage[.] With profound respect your Obdt. Servt

William Hendricks

P. S The ~~above are~~ enclosed are names of mems. chiefly of the Legl.

[Endorsed by AJ:] The Honble Mr. Hendricks on the subject of the private attacks upon him—to be filed—with other papers of his opponents.

ALS, DLC (39). Nathan Billings Palmer (1790–1875), a sometime Jefferson County legislator, had been appointed inspector of federal land offices in Indiana in 1829. He was later speaker of the Indiana house in 1833–34 and state treasurer, 1834–41.

1. Michael Graham Bright (1803–1881), brother of later U.S. senator Jesse D. Bright, edited the *Madison Herald*. His father was David Graham Bright (1775–1851). Proposals to establish a new land office in northern Indiana failed in Congress in 1830 and 1831.

2. Hendricks had been criticized in Indiana for his vote to confirm Amos Kendall (1789–1869) as fourth auditor of the Treasury. Kendall was confirmed on May 10, 1830, on a tie vote of 24 to 24, broken in his favor by Vice President Calhoun. In a public letter on June 15, 1830, Hendricks explained that he voted for Kendall "on precisely the same principle that I voted for Mr. Ingham and others the heads of the departments: because the President being responsible for the movement of the whole machinery of the executive departments, has a right which has not been denied to any of his predecessors, to the selection of his Heads of departments, and chief confidential officers around his person. Not surely that Kendall was a man of my choice" (Madison *Indiana Republican*, June 17, 1830).

3. John Sering defeated Palmer for the state senate in an August 1829 election. Hendricks was reelected U.S. senator in December 1830.

[Enclosure: Daniel Hankins et al. to AJ]

Indianapolis January 31st. 1831

Sir understanding that a statement will be made to you by a few of our political friends that in as much as the Hon. William Hendricks is not recognized as a Jackson man at home and as the Jackson party had to Contend against his influence before the election &c. That many of them would now be dissatisfied to see him engrossing the patronage in this State

The undersigned would respectfully state that they believe Mr. Hendricks to be an honest Correct man possessing the entire confidence of an overwhelming majority of both political parties in our State and we do consider that aney attempt to injure the standing of Mr. Hendricks with the Genl. Government would be unjust and without cause

The undersigned would further state that Nathan B. Palmer Esqr. of Jefferson County Ia. is at the head of this business who is and has been for several years a personal enemy of Mr. Hendricks

We would therefore respectfully ask the favour of you to disregaurd aney statement that may be made to you of the nature alluded to for we do assure you that there is no cause for Complaint. The undersigned subscribe themselves your personal as well as your Political friends

Daniel Hankins
James T. Pollock
Elisha Long
John Milroy
Eli Wright

[Five more signatures follow.]

~~A. F. Morrison, Secy. of Central Committee~~ ~~I will take the liberty to remark in explanation, that although I believe Mr. Hendricks to be what~~

~~is termed a "Clay man" yet I am well assured of his disposition *not to oppose* the present administration, and thus far have I no have objection to testify.~~[1]

DS, DLC (39). Daniel Hankins (c1795–1860), James T. Pollock (1791–1867), Elisha Long (c1794–1842), John Milroy (1776–1858), and Eli Wright (1786–1852) were all present or recent state legislators.

1. Alexander Ferguson Morrison (1804–1857) was a sometime state legislator and publisher of the Indianapolis *Indiana Democrat*.

To Charles Jones Love

Washington March 7th 1831—

My Dr Sir,

your kind letter of the 10th. ult. has been duly recceived, but the press of business at the winding up of Congress has prevented me from answering until now.

When Capt Mosely wrote me on the subject of the sale of 275 acres of his tract of land, I took up the idea, that as he had purchased back from McCulloch the Eighty acres Mr McCulloch had bot of Mr Moor, that, the tract bot of McCulloch, was to be included in the tract proposed for sale—hence it was, and believing that the sale would be an accomodation to my neighbour that I hasarded the acceptance of the contract proposed. I now understand that the Eighty acres formerly held by McCulloch is not to be included, but the tract is to extend ~~far~~ much farther east of that tract, & makes the area to be sold, much farther east than I expected, ~~that~~ it could not therefore add much benefit to the tract I now own, ~~that~~ I have declined the purchase, as it would, ~~from the shortness of my crop,~~ incumber me with debt, which ~~the detached form of~~ the land proposed for sale offers no inducement at my time of life, & under my situation. I therefore will pospone any purchase for the present, until my son goes out & examines the land, and I hear from the sale of my cotton. If you see Capt Mosely you may communicate this information to him. I have wrote to my overseer to inform him of ~~this~~ my determination. My son will be out some time in april next, and will judge for himself, ~~& me,~~ whether the advantage of the ~~purchase with~~ addition with my means will justify the purchase, & compleat some repairs of my house which I have ordered.[1]

The Tutor engaged from New-England has not yet arrived, nor have I heard from the Gentlemen who were to make the engagement for me—should I be disappointed in the one expected, I shall endeavour to engage one if I can, qualified & fit, and send him on to you. I find it more dificult in getting one of proper qualifications whose moral character can be vouched for, than I expected—many has presented themselves, but it has been those in pursuit of office, whose terms are extravagant, or whose morals, & Capacity, have not been well vouched for.

Major Donelson leaves me tomorrow for his family, to whom I must refer you for the news of this place.

The papers will have furnished you with the somerset of Genl. Green, and the conspicuous & prominent display of Mr Calhoun. They are as compleatly prostrate as any two Gentlemen ever were. They have cut their own throats, & destroyed themselves in a shorter spaice of time than any two men I ever knew—and both have to stop short, veer about and take some other tack, what is, not yet known—I am as yet a silent looker on in Venice, "when a fit occasion occurs & leisure will permit, I will give to the world a historical account of treachery & duplicity which never has been surpassed." In Mr Monroe and Mr Calhoun I had the most unlimited confidence. The attempt was made under that confidence, as appears now from their own letters published, to alter my letters & betray me into some expressions under the auspices of friendship, that might have been used by them to establish the charge of tracending my orders. Truth being always my guide, I escaped the net for me, without suspecting it. They have without my consent published part of my private letters & Mr Monroes to me, when the proper time arrives, I will give all to the world.

I have a wish to sell part of my stock of blood horses if I can, I wish you would enquire for a purchaser for them. I will instruct my son on this subject. I would sell on a credit, if a company would buy the whole. I will sell singly, or put them up at public sale—write me the prospects. Present me affectionately to Mrs Love & your family & believe me your friend

Andrew Jackson

[Endorsed by AJ:] copy this my son tonight

[Endorsed by AJ Jr.:] Copy of a letter to Colo Love—(7 March 1831) Nashville—

ALS draft, DLC (39). Love (c1773–1837) was AJ's Tennessee friend and neighbor. His wife was Frances Peyton Dixon Love (1785–1833).

1. In February 1830, Peter Guerrant Moseley (1776–1858) had sold AJ 151 acres adjoining his existing Hermitage holdings for $1,812. Love handled the transaction for AJ. Moseley was now offering an additional tract. AJ instructed AJ Jr. about the purchase on May 14 (below).

From Robert Armstrong

Post Office
Nashville 7 March 1831.

My Dear Genl.

Your friend Judge Overton has been confined for some times but for the last few days since has been doing better and will shortly be Out. day

before yesterday he sent me in your letter and requested me to attend to your wishes Mr. Steel was in town and to day Mr John Donelson Jnr. enclosed me your letter to the Judge and the enclosed *Copy* requested in yours of the 12th.[1]

We are *satisfied* in this Counrty with the *explenation or Editorial* remarks Containd in the Globe in relation to Mr Calhounes Book.[2] I am your friend Truly

R Armstrong

[Endorsed by AJ:] ¿why was it that I went to P. rather than order G. Gaines the answer is plain J Rheas letter had been recd. the responsibility of executing the order was entrusted to me—

ALS, DLC (39).

1. John Donelson (1787–1840) was the son of Rachel Jackson's late brother John Donelson.

2. The *Globe* first editorialized on the Seminole controversy on February 19. It censured Calhoun for making a public affair of "a mere *private difference*," labeling his February 17 *Telegraph* publication "wholly uncalled for." It also accused Calhoun of evading AJ's direct question about his course in Monroe's Cabinet by dragging readers on a "useless journey" through "a pile of extraneous matter." Dismissing Calhoun's avowed motive of self-defense as fraudulent, the *Globe* concluded that it was "impossible" to view his exposé as anything other than "an attack on the President" and "a firebrand wantonly thrown into the republican party."

To Andrew Jackson Donelson

March 8th. 1831—

memorandom for Major Donelson—

I wish my trunk of papers brought on to me, with all letters from Colo Arthur P. Hayne to me on the subject of the Seminole war, and those of Mr Calhoun which will be found in the pigeon hole in the paper press in my office—all the official papers on this subject are in the trunk.[1] In my Bureau, standing in the picture parlor under my dear wifes likeness, & in one of the small drawers in the upper part will be found the letter of Genl Houston to me inclosing the copy of the Confidential letter from Mr Monroe to Mr Calhoun. These letters, as well as those respecting Mr Southard, of Genl Houstons, I wish put into my trunk, with the correspondence with Southard, & brought on. I believe, these last are in my Trunk locked up. My letter Books are all in the Trunk—great care must be taken that the Trunk is brought on safe.

as to my stock, I would like to sell them all (indeed I will sell *all* if my son should not soon wish to take charge of the farm, as without his attention—the stock will not be profitable)[2] but the oscar & Virginia fillies & their colts, if a fair price could be had. The other mares & their colts I would sell all together or seperate—enquire—If the Stud is to be

brought here for Major Andrew the filley may be also. I wish to sell the miller mares stud colt by Stockholder—he must be large & likely & worth $500—but his price or value when you see them you will be the best judge.[3] Present me kindly to Emily & the children, to Mary Easton & say to them I will be happy to see them here. Present me affectionately to Mrs. Donelson & her family in which Stockly & his amiable lady is included, and to William & Elisabeth, to Mr Martin & his amiable family, to Alexander & Levan, & Severn & his.[4] Say to Mr & Mrs. McLamore I salute them kindly & will expect to see Mary on with him Genl Coffee & his daughter when you come on. Write me when you reach home, & give me the health of the family & such information as you believe will be interesting

Andrew Jackson

P.S. Please present me kindly to Mr J Sanders & your mother, to Danl & his lady, to your Grand-mother, & to your Unkle George & Aunt Tabitha & family[5] Say to Tabitha I recollect her with much good feeling—present me to all my neighbours respectfully & kindly A. J.

[Endorsed by AJ:] Memorandom for Major Donelson

ADS, DLC-Donelson Papers (17-0824).

1. On January 21, 1819, Hayne, then AJ's Army inspector general, had written AJ assuring him of the friendship and approval of Monroe, Calhoun, and Adams (DLC-26). AJ's "Exposition" on the Seminole affair (at end of year below) quoted this letter and also one Hayne had written from Washington on September 24, 1818, saying that Calhoun "certainly thinks with you altogether" that Pensacola ought not to be restored to Spain.

2. The text rendered here in parentheses is in the margin, marked for insertion.

3. Oscar and Virginian had been noted stud horses. Stockholder was a stallion at the stable of AJ's friend and neighbor Hardy M. Cryer.

4. Mrs. Donelson was Emily Donelson's mother, Mary Purnell Donelson, and Stockley and William were Emily's brothers. William's wife was Elizabeth Anderson Donelson (1809–1841). James Glasgow Martin (1791–1849) was married to Emily's sister, Catherine Donelson Martin (1799–1836). Leven Donelson (1776–1833), like Alexander, was an unmarried uncle of Emily and a brother of Rachel Jackson. Severn Donelson (b. 1797), the son of Rachel's brother William, was first cousin to Emily and AJ Donelson.

5. James Sanders (1764–1836) was the second husband of AJ Donelson's widowed mother, Mary Ann Michie Smith Donelson (1781–1857). Her mother, Donelson's grandmother, was Sarah Michie Smith (1755–1831). Tabitha Donelson Smith (1781–1854) was Emily's older sister. Her husband, George Smith (1776–1849), was a son of Sarah Michie Smith, and thus both AJ Donelson's uncle and Emily's brother-in-law.

Memorandum on David Crockett and Stockley Donelson Hays

Mr David Crocket to David Barton chairman &c &c Interrogatories answers he is acquainted—from last war one of the staff &c

as to his skill in science &c it is to him unknown. That he is intemperate to a degree of Sottishness & has been insolvant—and is unqualified for the office

AN, DLC (73). AJ wrote this note on the other side of his March 8 endorsement on the draft of his March 10 letter to Louis McLane (below). On January 12, the Senate on George Poindexter's motion had referred AJ's nomination of Hays for surveyor of public lands to the Committee on Public Lands, with instructions to inquire into his qualifications (*Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:136, 145). On January 18, committee chair David Barton wrote each of the eleven members of Tennessee's congressional delegation asking what they knew of Hays's proficiency at mathematics and surveying, "his habits in reference to industry, sobriety, and prudence in the management of his own affairs," and his overall fitness for office. All the replies but Crockett's were noncommital. Crockett answered Barton the same day that he had known Hays since the latter's service on AJ's staff in the War of 1812, that Hays's mathematical or scientific skills were "unknown," and that he had been insolvent for years and "whether he is industrious or not I am unable to Say but his want of Sobriety is So great that on the other hand he is notorious for intemperance—bordering on Sottishness." To the query whether he deemed Hays qualified and fit for office, Crockett replied "I answer emphaticaly I do not" (DNA-RG 46; James R. Boylston and Allen J. Wiener, *David Crockett in Congress* [2009], p. 200). Crockett was later criticized in the press for opposing Hays, and in defense published Barton's query and part of his response in the Jackson, Tenn., *Southern Statesman* on June 4.

To Andrew Jackson Donelson

March 10th. 1831—

Dr Andrew,

I have this moment recd. a letter from Emily & one from Mary Easten to your address, with a request that they be returned if you have left this. They are herewith inclosed, & when you hand them present my love to each & kiss the little ones for me—& present my kind salutations to all my connections & neighbours.

On the subject of my papers, if Genl Coffee is not with you or Mr McLamore get my friend judge Overton to aid you in looking over the letters of Mr Calhoun all of which I wish brought on by you—some of these may have been casually put up in my old desk in the upper part—look there as well as in the pigeon holes of my letter press—and also in the drawers of the Bureau under the picture of my Dr Wife. I want all Houstons & Calhouns on the private & confidential letter of Monroes and Col A. P. Haynes on the Seminole war.

Major Eaton has been quite sick but is much better. When you part without going up to see him, he had a violent fever, & exclaimed was it possible you would not come to see him, when you might never again meet in this world, I regret sincerely you did not either call or send your complements to know how he was—such would been soothing, when a different course would have a different effect—and produce harmony & a restoration of friendship between those that ought to be so.

I have but a moment to close this letter wishing you health & happiness & a speedy return I am yrs affectionately

Andrew Jackson

ALS, DLC-Donelson Papers (17-0830).

To Emily Tennessee Donelson

March 10th. 1831

Dr. Emily

This moment the enclosed came to hand, Major Donelson left us for Tennessee on the 8th. in the stage, & will be with you before this reaches you. The letters are agreable to your request herewith returned. I refer you to Major D. for the news of this place, who I hope will reach Nashville by the 18th. instant.

With a tender of good wishes to all my connections, & a hope that I shall soon see you, Mary, & the children, I am affectionately yrs.

Andrew Jackson

ALS, DLC-Donelson Papers (17-0833).

To Virgil Maxcy

[Virgil Maxcy (1785–1844) was appointed to the newly created office of Solicitor of the Treasury in May 1830. Peter Buell Porter (1773–1844) of New York had been appointed in 1816 as a commissioner under the Treaty of Ghent to determine the northwestern boundary between the United States and Canada, and served until the commission concluded unsuccessfully in 1827. In 1821 Congress reduced his annual salary from $4,444 to $2,500, but Porter continued to draw pay at the higher rate, claiming that the law violated payment terms that had been fixed by mutual agreement between the U.S. and Britain pursuant to a clause of the treaty itself. In December 1829 the Treasury Department issued a distress warrant against Porter to recover $9,440 in overpaid salary, against which he obtained a permanent injunction from a U.S. district court in New York. On November 6, 1830, Jackson ordered Maxcy to carry an appeal to the Supreme Court to try to vindicate the constitutionality of the 1821 law (DNA-RG 206; 16-0657). The government continued to pursue its case against Porter through the courts until 1835, without success.]

The Solicitor of the Treasury will inform General Porter that the President on the 6 of November gave directions to the said Solicitor to enter an

appeal to the supreme Court of the United States from the decision of the District Judge in the proceedings instituted against Genl Porter in behalf of the United States, he believing that such right of appeal does exist, and deeming it important that the question whether it does or not Should be decided by the Supreme Court, as well in respect to the interest of the U. States in that particular case as with a view to a recommendation of the subject to congress for an amendment of the Law if ~~it~~ the right of appeal is not now secured to the Government.

The Solicitor may also ~~assure~~ inform Genl Porter that similar directions have been given in ~~other cases very important~~ several other important cases—which are now in prosecution. The Solicitor may also inform Genl Porter that his case may be permitted to await the decision upon the others if he should ~~give his consent thereto.~~ prefer this course, & if it can be adopted without prejudice to the U States

Should the President fell it to be his duty to direct any further Steps to be taken after the decision of the supreme Court upon the Subject of the right of appeal, the solicitor of the Treasury will be instructed to inform Genl Porter what those steps are to be.

AD draft, DLC (59; 17-0837). DS dated March 10, DNA-RG 206 (17-0835).

To Louis McLane

Confidential

Washington March 8th. 1831—[1]

My Dear friend

The letter written to you by Mr. Van Buren at my table spoke fully my feelings & wishes towards you, but I trust that the nature of our relations excludes the necessity of professions. You have served your country faithfully & successfully, and as far as it is in my power to prevent, it shall not be ungrateful to you. Although I was well aware that those who did any thing, but rejoice in your success, would raise a clamour at your return—I had nevertheless determined, sensible of the reasonableness of your request, to grant you permission to return in the spring, and Mr Van Buren wrote you to that effect. When I did so, my hopes were that I would have it in my power to do something that would be satisfactory on your arrival, ~~more strong~~ stronger than ~~even~~ Mr. Van Buren expressed them. It gives me pain to say that a due regard to existing circumstances, and a respect for all interests that merit consideration have interposed obstacles to the gratification of my wishes in that respect which makes a posponement of them nearly impracticable. But that is not the principle inducement for what I am about to say to you, for I am satisfied ~~that~~ you would be content to await circumstances, knowing well that no proper opportunity would be left unimproved. I have said you have served your

country faithfully & successfully, and to those who do so their country may naturally look ~~to~~ for support in public exigencies. We ~~have~~ are yet without information from Mr Prebble & have no accounts of the result of his mission other, than what is derived from your communication, & the public papers.[2] Taking them in connection with indications from Main, I apprehend that dificulties of no ordinary character may grow out of this affair. Should such be the case, I have had too much knowledge of your peculiar fitness for the station you occupy not to be sensible of the injury the public interest might sustain from your withdrawal, and I am confident the act would be ~~generally~~ disapproved by the ~~whole~~ people. Those, with several other considerations constrain me to require your continuance at London for one year more, or at least to fall; or until circumstances may so change, as to justify a different course; on which event, you may rest assured that they will not be suffered to pass unnoticed. I am sensible of the disappointment this will be to you, and I think you know me too well not to be satisfied of the pain I experience in announcing it ~~to you~~. But I know also as well from my knowledge of your personal character; as from the Stock you are decended, that you will not stop to count the sacrafice, when it is your country which demands it.

you may happen to learn that on its being generally believed at the rising of Congress that you were coming home, and indeed asserted that you were on the water, a hue & cry was raised by the opposition about outfits and extravagance &c &c. I therefore think proper to assure you that this circumstance has not ~~ever~~ entered into my considerations in deciding on ~~my~~ the present course. I would not have made up my mind to have given you permission to return, if I had not believed it to have been right, and thinking so, it is not my course to heed the clamour of those who are disposed to ~~clam~~ rail on whatever may be done. I think it due to you, that it should be known that you have requested permission to return, & that I have on public grounds felt it my duty to insist on your remaining at your post for some time longer.

Repeating my regrets at the contents of this letter, & desiring ~~my~~ to be affectionately remembered to Mrs. McLane & all her children,[3] whom I expect to see at Washington at no distant day, & under more auspicious circumstances, I am Dr sir very respectfully yr friend

Andrew Jackson

[Endorsed by AJ:] Coopy to the Honbe L. Mc.Lane March 8th. 1831

ALS draft, DLC (73). Appointed minister to Britain by AJ in 1829, McLane had several times voiced a desire to come home. In a dispatch to Van Buren written on February 22 but not yet received in Washington, he asked permission to return, citing his inadequate salary, his family's poor health, and the completion of his principal mission of reopening the British West Indian colonial trade (DNA-RG 59, M30-33). Van Buren answered on April 26, conveying AJ's approval and his offer of the post of Secretary of the Treasury (DNA-RG 59, M77-73). McLane replied to AJ on June 6 (below).

1. AJ's draft is dated March 8. But McLane, writing to AJ on June 6, gave the date of the received letter as March 10.

2. Preble's dispatch enclosing William I's decision was received at the State Department on March 16.

3. McLane's wife, Catherine Milligan McLane (1790–1849), and ten children were with him in England.

From David W. Haley

Yazoo Choctaw Nation
March 10th. 1831

Dear General

You are no doubt apprised of a party in Col. Leflores district who became opposed to him on account of his having made a Treaty. this party has latly met and elected Mr. George W. Harkins as their chief and says they will not recognise Col. Leflore as chief for the time to come. Capt. Harkins is quite a promising young man and may be usefull to his people when they get west of the Mississippi, and he ~~gets~~ arives to a proper age to administer to the wants of a neady people. but at present he is calculated to injure them as a large part of the district will not acknowledge him as long as Col. Leflore will serve—and I hope for the prosperity of Mississippi, and the good of the unfortunate and ignorant choctaws that you will inform them they have no power to make chiefs within the limits of the state of Mississippi and advise them to dispence with it untill they get to their new home in the west. by their late act they have laid themselves loable to a fine of $1000 and 12 months imprisment and should the law be enforced it would ruin every man of them, as it is known they are opposed to the Treaty.[1] I am informed that Capt. Harkins tells the indians if they can hold out for four years (I suppose he aludes untill you go out of office) they can then hold their country. such talk is calculated to distroy the ignorant part of the nation. if Col. Leflore is dismissed from office by the goverment there will be at once a general opposition to the Treaty. should the Treaty fail to be ratified by the present Senate a strate talk from you to the fractured party will at once silence them.[2]

You will finde Col. Leflore to the end a firm high minded honorable friend. this is all in confidence. I have the honor to be your friend & obt. sevt.

D. W. Haley

[Endorsed by AJ:] The Secretary of War will answer this & assure the choctaws that no other chiefs will be acknowledged by the Government, where they now are but those with whom the treaty was made. When they reach their new home, they are then at liberty to establish their own

laws & elect their chiefs. The law of Mississippi Governs where they now are A. J

ALS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-169). Haley (1793–1857) was a Mississippi mail contractor employed by AJ as a personal emissary to the Choctaws. Greenwood Leflore (1800–1865), chief of the Choctaws' northwestern district, had signed the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek in September 1830. At a district election on October 23, 1830, he was replaced by his nephew, George Washington Harkins. Choctaw agent William Ward had reported Leflore's ouster to Eaton on December 2, 1830 (DNA-RG 75, M234-169). On April 11, 1831, Indian superintendent Samuel S. Hamilton wrote Ward that to quell the "confusion and disturbance" caused by the election, "I am directed by the Secretary of War to instruct you to inform the Choctaws that no other Chiefs will be acknowledged by the Government where they now are, and where the laws of the State of Mississippi govern, but those with whom the late treaty was made" (DNA-RG 75, M21-7).

1. A January 19, 1830, Mississippi statute extended state jurisdiction over the Choctaws. It abolished their government and subjected "any person or persons who shall assume on him or themselves, and exercise in any manner whatever the office of chief, mingo, head-man or other post of power, established by the tribal statutes" and not recognized by the state to a fine of up to $1,000 and up to one year's imprisonment (Mississippi session laws, January 1830 sess., pp. 5–6).

2. The Senate had ratified the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek on February 21.

To Samuel Delucenna Ingham

March 11th. 1831—

The President with his respects to the Secretary of the Treasury & requests his attention to the letter of the Govr. of Virginia on the subject of the revolutionary claims against the United States. The President awaits the report of the Secretary of the Treasury & the return of the Govrs letter before he replies. Still, the President does not wish the attention of the Sec. to be occupied on this subject until his health is restored.

[Endorsed by Ingham:] Is not the report for the President ready or nearly so—if so Mr D will please to forward it[1]—SDI

AN, PU-Ingham Papers (17-0840). John Floyd (1783–1837) was governor of Virginia. On January 22 the Virginia legislature adopted a resolution directing him to procure an accounting of the $3,500,000 allotted to Virginia in the assumption of state Revolutionary debts adopted by Congress in 1790. Floyd wrote AJ on January 26. Saying that "the United States are bound in good faith, to reimburse Virginia for all her expenses during that war," Floyd detailed the state's extraordinary exertions and sacrifices in the Revolution, especially on the western frontier. He protested Virginia's share in the assumption as "arbitrarily" small, and demanded full payment of the amount still rightfully due (Vi, mAJs). Ingham reported to AJ on March 17, and AJ wrote Floyd on March 18 (below).

1. Asbury Dickins (1780–1861) was chief clerk of the Treasury Department.

To Martin Van Buren

[Jackson's March 6 date on this letter is almost certainly an error. The likely date is March 16, the day when the State Department received William Pitt Preble's January 16–17 dispatch to Van Buren enclosing arbiter William I's award on the Northeast boundary, Preble's protest against it, and his subsequent correspondence with British ambassador Charles Bagot (DNA-RG 59, M42-13).]

March 6th. 1831

Dr Sir

I have finished a hasty perusal of the letters you enclosed me. I have to request that you furnish me with the submission of the subject to the King of the Netherlands; so soon as I examine that, & compare it with the award I will be more competant to decide the proper course to be adopted—we must step with care, but I can see no dificulty in the case. The course of the Executive is a plain one. The national faith must be kept inviolate (so far as it has been constitutional pledged) & enforced, but the sovereign power of the states cannot be impaired, by any unconstitutional pledge ~~of~~ to any power—before an executive council is called, I wish to see the submission & converse with you on the terms of it[.] yrs.

Andrew Jackson

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (17-0812).

Memoranda on the Northeast Boundary

[These notes were evidently composed between March 16, when William Pitt Preble's January 16–17 dispatch containing William I's arbitration award arrived in Washington, and March 18, when Van Buren wrote Maine governor Samuel E. Smith about the award.]

The historical facts—The Treaty of 1783—states the boundary—Questions—which are the ~~waters~~ high lands that divide the waters that run into the St. Lawrence, from those running into the atlantic &c &c. The admission in the Treaty of Ghent, that the point due north on the highlands not ascertained &c &c & the head of Connecticut, &c have not yet been survayed &c &c. Mr Clays letter in which he states, the states to be consulted, 8th august 1826 Mr Gallatine 40. concurs—[1]

Note ☞ call upon the Governor of Main for the boundaries of the charter to the Lords proprietors of Mass. to enable us to judge of a proper course by which the executive should adopt under the existing circum-

stances under which the boundery of Main is placed under the various incumbrances by Treaties &c &c—

Mr Clays reply to Govr of Main—but two things towit, submit to arbitrate, or war—does not the same dificulty more imperiously exist—¿Can the arbitration be set aside without violating national faith—[2]

Prebble' dispatch—16th. Jary 31—influence that operated—not a just one—for if the influence alledged had operated, he would have adopted the british line—[3]

The u. States free from arbitration under treaties—Q—how is that part of the Treaty of Ghent & of 1827 *set aside* so as to be inoperative[4]

protest. The boundery from st croix—due north to the high lands, the first point submitted. The line described, a deviation from the submission—no power to substitute a boundery other than that defined by the treaty of 1783—[5]

Letter to Mr Bagot—*purporting to be the advice of the arbitor*—not award—Mr Bagots reply # The *award final & conclusive*—[6]

[Endorsed by AJ:] Memorandom award, North East boundery

AD (dated 1831), DLC (40).

1. Article II of the 1783 Treaty of Paris prescribed a boundary running along the highlands from a point due north of the source of the St. Croix to the northwesternmost head of the Connecticut River. Article V of the 1814 Treaty of Ghent, which ended the War of 1812, acknowledged that neither point had yet been ascertained nor the line between them surveyed. It provided for the appointment of commissioners to resolve the boundary and for reference to a friendly sovereign for final arbitration if they failed. Albert Gallatin (1761–1849) had been U.S. minister to Britain in 1826–27 and negotiated the 1827 convention setting the terms of arbitration. On August 8, 1826, Secretary of State Henry Clay had instructed him that in President Adams's view "it would be expedient to consult the States whose territory might be affected" before proposing or accepting any compromise boundary (*Clay Papers*, 5:597). Gallatin replied on October 30, 1826, that "I not only acquiesce but entirely concur in the President's opinion" that no state's territory could be ceded without its consent (*ASP Foreign Relations*, 6:648).

2. Maine governor Enoch Lincoln (1788–1829) had written Clay on November 16, 1827, strongly protesting the submission of the boundary to arbitration (*ASP Foreign Relations*, 6:933). Clay replied on November 27 that direct negotiation had been tried and failed and that the Treaty of Ghent, to which the U.S. was pledged in good faith, required arbitration as the alternative. The only other recourse would be war (*Clay Papers*, 6:1321–23).

3. Preble's dispatch had accused William I of bias and bad faith, saying that his "most palpable dependance" on Britain for a favorable resolution over Belgium made him "a nominal sovereign" with "hardly the independence of a viceroy of Great Britain" ("Northeast Boundary," pp. 16–17).

4. Preble's dispatch opined that William I's violation of his charge had "relieved the United States from all further obligation to continue in that false position into which they have been drawn by the bad faith of the British Government operating under color of the

treaty of Ghent. Every thing having been done on the part of the United States which the faith of treaties requires, they are disembarrassed from that measure of arbitration, and are at full liberty to vindicate their rights, and pursue their own measures in their own way."

5. Preble's January 12 protest had argued that the arbiter had "no authority whatever" to designate a compromise line, but was required to choose between the interpretations of the 1783 treaty language submitted to him by the contending parties ("Northeast Boundary," pp. 17–20).

6. On January 15, Preble had sent his British counterpart, Charles Bagot, a copy of his protest against the award, which Preble termed "a document purporting to be the advice of his Majesty, as arbiter." Preble declared that he "considers the whole subject, so far as the United States, and the further measures to be adopted by them, are concerned, as reverting to the Government of the United States at Washington." Bagot answered on January 17 that the U.S. and Britain had "mutually engaged themselves to consider as final and conclusive" the arbiter's decision, and that its validity was a question "upon which their respective Governments have alone the power to decide." Preble included the exchange with his dispatch, saying it offered "new proof of the perfect intelligence subsisting on this subject" between William I and the British ("Northeast Boundary," pp. 20–21, 17).

1rst. Shall we send the protest & correspondence of Mr. Prebble with Sir Charles Bagot to the Governor of Main as well as the award

2nd. If so shall any restrictions be imposed on the use he is to make of them.

3rd. If they are sent shall the fact that the protest &c was made without authority be stated, & if stated, in what form shall it be done—by alledging the fact, or by sending extracts from Mr. Prebles dispatch in which it is admitted.

4th. Shall it be stated with certainty when the President will decide upon the course he will pursue, or shall that be left as in the sketch of the letter submitted.

5th. Shall the Government of Main be asked to abstain from any acts of authority over the disputed territory in the mean time

6th. Is it expedient to state in the present communication the application of Mr. Prebble for leave of absence, & to be heard before the President decides, & that the couse he requests will be pursued, or should that communication be for the present omitted.

7th. Shall leave of absence be given to Mr Prebble, & if so, shall Mr Davasac be left as charges.

[Endorsed by AJ:] Questions—To be submitted—

[Endorsed by AJ:] questions propounded to the council nor E boundery & award

AD (dated 1831), DLC (40). In the margin, Amos Kendall wrote "yes" to questions one, five, and seven, and "no" to questions two, three, and four. Opposite question six, he wrote "yes as stated in the Sectarys letter." Van Buren wrote Maine governor Samuel E. Smith on March 18. He enclosed William I's award, the protest which he said Preble had "thought it his duty, without instructions to that effect from the President, to address," Preble's exchange with Bagot, and extracts from his January 16–17 dispatch. Van Buren told Smith of Preble's "earnest wish" to be heard in person on the boundary issue and said that his request for leave would be "forthwith granted." He assured Smith that AJ appreciated the subject's "great importance," promised it AJ's careful attention, and asked that "while the matter is under deliberation, no steps may be taken by the State of Maine, with regard to the disputed territory, which might be calculated to interrupt or embarrass the action of the executive branch" (DNA-RG 59, M40-22; "Northeast Boundary," pp. 32–33).

To John Floyd

WASHINGTON, 18th March, 1831.

SIR,

Your letter of the 26th January last, referring to a resolution of the General Assembly of Virginia, "requesting you to ascertain what portion of the three millions five hundred thousand dollars, allowed to Virginia by the Act of Congress providing for the funding of the debts of the States, has been placed to the credit of the Commonwealth of Virginia, on account of the debts contracted during the revolutionary war; and whether a final settlement, according to the provisions of that act, has ever taken place between Virginia and the United States," was duly received, and without delay referred to the Secretary of the Treasury for his report thereon.

The great pressure on the Department during the session of Congress, has delayed his report until now; and as the session of your Legislature is drawing to a close, I hasten to lay it before you, with the hope that it will be received as a satisfactory answer to the enquiries contained in their resolution.

You will perceive by this report from the Treasury Department, that instead of the United States being debtor, there is a balance due to them, from the State of Virginia, of one hundred thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine dollars.

I am, Sir, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

ANDREW JACKSON.

Printed, *Journal of the House of Delegates of the Commonwealth of Virginia*, December 1830 session, pp. 252–54 (mAJs). *Richmond Enquirer*, March 26, 1831. AJ enclosed a March 17 report from Ingham, saying that Floyd and the Virginia legislature had misconstrued the 1790 federal assumption of state debts. Virginia's $3,500,000 was an upper limit (in fact not reached) on her then outstanding debt to be assumed by the U.S., not a credit or payment due to her. A "final and conclusive settlement" of all accounts for Revolutionary expenses had in fact been made in 1793. It showed Virginia as debtor to the U.S. for $100,879, which the state had never paid.

To Samuel Delucenna Ingham

March 18th. 1831—

The President with his respects to the Secretary of the Treasury, will thank him, to ~~give~~ send him the names of those Gentlemen who recomended Mr Harrison as Collector of the Port of Louisville Kentuckey—a letter just recd. from *a friend* makes this *important*, to the P. & Secretary.

[Endorsed by Ingham:] Mr Dickins will please to send the papers to the Pt. SDI

AN, PU-Ingham Papers (17-0904). On January 18, AJ had nominated Benjamin Johnston Harrison (1790–1858) for customs surveyor and inspector at Louisville in place of James Madison Campbell, who had resigned. The Senate confirmed Harrison on February 3.

To Francis Preston

Washington March 18th. 1831—

My Dr Sir

your letter of the 6th. instant has this moment been received, & I hasten to reply to it.

To shew you how little grounds of serious complaint agreable to truth can exist against me, for the appoint of Mr Harrison, I enclose herewith the names, in part, of the gentlemen who have recommended him, & which now are on file in the Treasury Department. I have always, on passing Louisville Kentucky, found Mr Harrison in the best of company, as one of the committee of arrangements raised by my friends to offer me their hospitality; and never before, have I heard from any respectable source, that his character was not good. I was acquainted with his father, who was respectable when I knew him, one of the first pioneers, & early settlers at Louisville, and from the high standing of those Gentlemen who have recommended him for office, I had a right to confide, and did rely on their recommendation, nor have I any good reason to doubt of its correctness.[1]

I feel grateful to you for the interest you have taken in my defence, & trust you will undeceive the Gentleman to whom you alude—but there are so much corruption & deception at work now a days, that many complain when they are well advised, that in justice & truth, there are no real grounds. I tender you my thanks for the interest you have taken, to find out the truth, on which I have always rested, it is from divinity, it is one of his atributes, & will always prevail, when duplicity, will ultimately covers it author, with shame.

With a tender of my kind salutations to your amiable Lady & family, and best wishes for your health & happiness, believe me your friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, DLC (17-0906). Preston (1765–1835), of Abingdon, Va., was a former congressman and AJ's close friend. His wife was Sarah Buchanan Campbell Preston (1778–1846).

1. Harrison had been active in AJ's 1824 and 1828 campaigns. His father, John Harrison (1754–1821), a Virginia officer in the Revolution, came to Louisville in 1785.

From John Blair

Jonesborough 18th March 1831—

Dear General:

On my return to the District, I found that the arrangements which I had anticipated were matured, & General William B Carter brought out in oposition to me. This was the plan of Mr. O. C Bradly when you passed through this part of the Country, and the design was to get the influence of your name in some manner to bear upon me.[1] As to those Gentlemen I mean to say nothing—my object in writing this line, is to inform you that, it is whispered about in dark innuendoes that you had expressed your dissatisfaction at my public course, and that I had gone against all the prominent measures of your administration. I have served in Congress since you first came before the Country for the Presidency, & my course is known, I claim no credit for what I have done, all that I ask is that, Justice shall be done me, & by my works I am willing to be Judged. If I have been so unfortunate as justly to merit your displeasure, I can only so that I would decline my pretensions in favour of one whom it would be thought, would sustain your Administration better than I have. I have never differed with you on a single question of your administration save that of Internal Improvements, and on that only as to the extent & not the great principles involved. On that I pledged myself & recorded my votes prior to your election, & every Honorable man must appreciate my situation under a course which would have branded me with inconsistency.[2] I have thus far endeavoured to get along without any difficulty in my course, and would have submitted to any injustice rather than call upon any one to give aid to my pretensions—but whilst I would scrupulously adhere to that course, I cannot think it would be doing Justice either to my Constituents or myself to suffer the unauthorised influence of your high standing to be used as the lever to raise over me, one, whom I feel very certain you ~~never~~ could not look upon in the light of a political supporter. I hope that you will not feel that there is any indelicacy in requesting that you check

any unauthorised influence which is attempted to used on account of the foregoing statements.

I am sir with sentiments of esteem your friend & obt servt

John Blair

ALS, DLC (39). Blair (1790–1863), of Jonesborough, had been a Tennessee congressman since 1823. In August 1831, he narrowly won reelection against state legislator William Blount Carter (1792–1848). This same day, former legislator Peter Parsons also wrote from Jonesborough asking AJ to deny favoring Carter over Blair (DLC-39).

1. Orville Thomas Caldwell Bradley (1794–1845) of Hawkins County was later a Tennessee legislator.

2. In 1830 Blair had voted for the Maysville Road bill and for the unsuccessful bid to override AJ's veto.

From Spencer Darwin Pettis

Washington
March 18. 1831

Sir

Permit me to request that the Kickapoo Tribe of Indians and the other remnants of tribes residing in the south western section of Missouri may be removed this summer to the west of the State, if the funds placed at your disposal can be spared from more important objects

The Indians desire to go and the white people are anxious for their removal It would cost but little as the distance is short

But if you cannot remove them I pray that a treaty may be held with them preparatory to an appropriation for that object next winter. Under the great excitement during the last session on the subject of Indians, it was found impracticable to pass a law in advance, making an appropriation for their removal—While at the same time an appropriation was made for objects when a treaty had already been made. The case of the Delaware Indians is one of the cases to which I allude.[1]

Col Cummings the agent of the Kickapoos or Genl. Clark the Superintendant could very easily and at a trifling expense, make the treaty.[2] I submit this subject to your favorable consideration[.] I am Sir with great respect Your Obdt. Servt

Sp: Pettis

ALS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-434). Pettis (1802–1831) was a Missouri congressman. In 1819 the Kickapoos had relinquished their lands in Illinois and Indiana for a tract in southwest Missouri. The neighboring Shawnees and Delawares of southwest Missouri had signed removal treaties in 1825 and 1829, respectively.

1. "An Act to carry into effect certain Indian treaties," signed March 2, 1831, appropriated nearly $60,000 to implement the Delaware removal treaty of 1829.

2. Richard Waller Cummins (1788–c1860) was agent to the Delawares and Shawnees, and William Clark (1770–1838), co-leader of the famed Lewis and Clark expedition, was

Superintendent of Indian Affairs at St. Louis. On July 14, 1832, Congress appropriated $46,000 to extinguish Indian titles in Missouri and Illinois. Clark and two others were commissioned as negotiators the same day. In October 1832, the Kickapoos signed a treaty with them relinquishing their Missouri holdings for lands in present northeast Kansas.

To Edward Livingston

March 19th 1831—

The case of Bernard Dontreine, presented by the Honble. E. Livingston, asking a suspension of the Sales of the public Lands in the section of country where the land claimed is alledged to be—*Considered*.

The Petitioner claims under a French patent dated 2nd of March 1756 granted to Messhrs. Dontreine & Masse, Tract called the Prarie of the Vermillion bounded East by the river Tortues and the Lake Tasse, on the north by the Mauvais bois, on the west by the river Vermillion, and on the South by a muddy prairie, for the purpose of forming a grazeing establishment, with an *express condition that if the establishment was not formed in one year from the date of the grant—the grant should be void & revert to the public domain*

This claim from the Maps embraces a conderable body of land in the Parish of St Martins county of attakapas, and from where it appears from the Maps to be situate a part must have been survayed & already sold by order of the Government. Since 1804 many laws have been passed providing for the adjudication of land claims in Louisiana, requiring all claimants to enter their lands, and under these laws numerous reports have been made, & received the sanction of the Government; but it seems from the petition these claimants never attempted to enter their claim, or ask the benefit of these laws, and *now* for the first time present their petition to Congress for a confirmation of their title, and in the mean while, the Executive is requested to *suspend the lands from public sale by special order*. This Tract claimed is situate in the District of land now ~~offered for~~ subject to sale at opelousas. By the provisions of existing laws "no tract of land shall be offered for sale, the claim to which has been, in due time, & according to law presented to the Register of the land office, & filed in his office for the purpose of being investigated by the Commissioners appointed for the purpose of ascertaining the rights of persons claiming Lands in the Territory of Orleans"[1] Under this provision no claim that has been properly filed, can now be offered for sale. But no provision is known to exist, that will authorise the Executive, where the claimant has failed to avail himself of the provisions of law, to suspend a land sale to await the action of congress on such a *stale* claim as the one presented, when the acts of the claimants themselves (by not attempting to take advantage of the acts of Congress) have furnished strong presumptive

evidence that the positive condition upon which the grant was made, was never complied with, therefore that it became forfeited & reverted to the publict domain—

The Executive therefore can take no order upon the subject

Andrew Jackson

ADS, NjP-Livingston Papers (mAJs). Edward Livingston (1764–1836) was U.S. senator from Louisiana. On December 21, 1830, he had submitted to the Senate a petition from the heirs of Jean Antoine Bernard D'Auterive (c1730–1776) for a confirmation of their claim. It was referred to the Committee on Private Land Claims but not acted upon. Livingston then requested GLO commissioner Elijah Hayward to exempt the tract from the pending public sale. Hayward declined on March 14. Livingston apparently then appealed to AJ, who referred the matter again to Hayward. Hayward reported to AJ on March 17 (DNA-RG 49, M25-26). AJ's decision here closely followed the wording of Hayward's report. The heirs continued to pursue their claim through Congress and the courts, without success.

1. AJ quoted an Act of March 3, 1811, for the adjustment of Louisiana land claims (*Statutes*, 2:664).

From Robert Todd Lytle

Cincinnati March 19th. 1831

Dear Genl.

I feel it my melancholy duty to inform you, that it has pleased God to take home the spirit of my honored Father. He died on the morning of yesterday—or rather his pure spirit quietly abandoned its wretched tabernacle of suffering, for a home where care comes not, & where sorrow never enters.

His illness had been one of lingering pain, for several months, until within a few weeks, when we began to cherish the hope, that with the returning Spring. He might be blessed with increased health & strength, but a sudden cold facilitated a crisis, which he cared not to avoid, as it was one *he had always lived to meet*. While then we mourn the loss of our sainted Friend & Parent, we have the consolation of knowing that our loss has been his unspeakable gain.

It is due to his memory, to inform you, that to the last hour of his life, his kindliest & most patriotic feelings were directed towards you, & your public measures—and that in his repeated suplications to the Throne of Grace, you were often remembered. He died as he lived, your warm unwavering friend.

With sentiments of eternal gratitude to you, for assisting to smoth down the path of his few declining years, and the warmest wishes for your welfare in all the relations of life, & under all the high responsibilities that surround you, I remain Dear Sir your Sincere Friend & Humble Sert.

Robt. T. Lytle

The family unite with me in their kindest wishes for your health & happiness

[Endorsed by AJ:] Majer Lytle announcing the death of his dear father & communicating his prayers & friendship for me to his last expiring breath—the prayers of the riteous prevail much A. J.

ALS, DLC (39). AJ had appointed William Lytle (1770–1831) of Cincinnati surveyor general of public lands in Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan Territory in 1829. Robert Todd Lytle (1804–1839), a former Ohio legislator and later congressman, was himself appointed surveyor general by AJ in 1835.

Memorandum on Cherokee Nation v. Georgia

[On March 19, Supreme Court reporter Richard Peters conveyed to Jackson a manuscript copy of the Court's opinion delivered the previous day, March 18, in Cherokee Nation v. Georgia *(DLC-39). Represented by attorneys William Wirt and John Sergeant, the Cherokees had claimed the status of a sovereign nation and sought an injunction against Georgia's extension of state authority over them and their territory. Speaking for the Court, Chief Justice John Marshall (1755–1835) denied the injunction on jurisdictional grounds. The Indians were not "foreign nations," whose cases the Constitution empowered federal courts to hear, but rather "domestic dependent nations," who "cannot maintain an action in the courts of the United States." Justices William Johnson and Henry Baldwin (1780–1844) submitted concurring opinions (30 U.S. Reports 15–50). Smith Thompson and Joseph Story dissented.]*

Indian case—Hopewell Treaty, surrenders the power of a sovereign & independent state, & ~~as to~~ leaves them no longer a *Sovereign State*. By the will of the conquerer, being allies of great Britain, by the treaty of 83, they were left unprovided for, and as the allies of great Britain were viewed as a conquered people.[1] Georgia having been acknowledged by great Britain in said treaty a free Sovereign & independent state within the chartered limits of the provincial government. In Hopewell treaty, they stipulate, "that they will not hold any treaty with any foreign power, individual state, or individuals of any state.[2] The compact with Georgia 1802—U. States grants to Georgia all jurisdiction & right it possesses over the territory retained, which secures the state, in addition to its own sovereign power over the cherokees, all that was surrendered to the u. States by the Treaty of Hopewell ☞ see its provisions, & construe them by the phrases used[3]

[Endorsed by AJ:] notes on the Indian case against Georgia

AD, DLC (37; 17-0910). AJ's notes roughly followed Henry Baldwin's concurring opinion, which went beyond Marshall's distinction between foreign and domestic nations to deny to the Indians any national or sovereign character at all.

1. The Cherokees had allied with the British in the Revolution. The 1785 Treaty of Hopewell made peace between them and the U.S. and acknowledged "all the Cherokees to be under the protection of the United States of America, and of no other sovereign whosoever."

2. In the 1791 Treaty of Holston (not Hopewell), the Cherokees again acknowledged themselves "to be under the protection of the said United States of America, and of no other sovereign whosoever; and they also stipulate that the said Cherokee nation will not hold any treaty with any foreign power, individual state, or with individuals of any state."

3. In an 1802 formal compact, Georgia ceded its western lands (later Alabama and Mississippi) to the United States. In return, the U.S. relinquished "whatever claim, right, or title they may have to the jurisdiction or soil of any lands" within Georgia, and also pledged to "extinguish, for the use of Georgia, as early as the same can be peaceably obtained, on reasonable terms," all remaining Indian title within the state (*ASP Public Lands*, 1:113–14).

From Shadrach Penn Jr.

Confidential.

Louisville, March 20, 1831

Dr Sir

I deem it a duty, as a friend, to inform you that the appointment of Mr. B. J. Harrison as Collector and Surveyor of this port, is very unpopular here, and deservedly so. He is at this time, I believe, a defaulter to the City for about $2000—has been expelled the Lodge for dishonesty, and some years since, barely escaped the pillory, in a trial in the Jefferson Circuit Court for official malconduct.

I make this statement to you, that the first safe opportunity may be improved to remedy the evil. That may be best done, perhaps, by causing the office of Collector to be separated from that of Surveyor at the next session of Congress [and by] then giving the Collectorship to a man who has the reputation of being honest.

I think the duties of the station of Collector may be discharged by Wm. Douglass, who you know to be honest—and, as he is needy and deserving, it would afford me pleasure to see him in that Station. It is possible, however, that Mr. Douglass may obtain the office of tobacco inspector here and [if] so, I will apprise you of the fact and recommend some other individual to whom no possible objection can be urged. If he should fail in his present effort cannot the Collectorship be held in reserve for him, until Congress can again act on the subject?—and in the meantime, can he not be employed as an agent or assistant of Capt Jos Taylor in furnishing supplies for the Chocktaws who are to be removed beyond the Mississippi. Capt. Taylor is not only willing but anxious to employ Mr. Douglass.[1]

Very Respectflly

S. Penn, Jr.

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr. Penn says B. J. Harrison ought not to be in office—that he has been expelled the Lodge for dishonesty Defaulter to the State &c &c—see Major Barry—A J

ALS, THer (17-0913). Penn (1790–1846) was editor of the *Louisville Public Advertiser* and a member of the recently formed Kentucky Jackson "Central Committee." Benjamin J. Harrison had been the object of numerous actions for debt in Louisville. He remained as customs surveyor and inspector (not collector) until 1836, when he resigned.

1. William Douglass (d. 1831) was a Louisville businessman and an acquaintance of AJ. On July 14, the War Department at AJ's direction appointed him as special agent to value and sell the cattle of emigrating Choctaws (*SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 311–12, Serial 245). Before that, he was briefly employed by Captain Joseph Pannell Taylor (1796–1864), an Army commissary, in collecting wagons for the emigration. Douglass died in September at Columbus, Miss.

To Andrew Jackson Donelson

(Private)

Washington March 24th. 1831—
11. P.M—

My Dr Andrew

We have not heard one word from you since you left us. I hope you have reached your family in safety & found them all in good health, and all your connections, and our good neeighbours enjoying that greatest of blessings.

You have no doubt seen Genl Duff paper. The man has realised what I long suspected, by displaying to open day what his secretely workings were. I fear we have had more in our ranks, than Duff, who have been acting the double part. I have had a manuscrip read to me to day of a conversation had & held, with some of my advisers, that shews that there are more deceipt practised than by Calhoun, and well accounts for the divisions of Pennsylvania on the Indian & all other questions before Congress, than I ever understood before.[1] The whole mistery, & all the real plots will, by this paper, be soon unraveled, and if I am right in my conjectures will bring it home to one that I am sure you would not suspect, but from the wicked combination to drive Eaton out of my Cabinet because he was thought oppose politically to Calhoun, & the bitterness of his wife on this subject, I could not help believing he was not acting in good faith with the administration, but would sacrafice it to the promotion of Calhoun. I am to have a copy tomorrow, and the name of the individuals, when I will act with frankness, & ask, *if it be true*. I will purge all double dealers from my Cabinet come what may.

I have been much pressed with business since you left me. I wish you here but my dear Andrew from what I have suffered by my family being arrayed against my best friend, by the contrivance of those, whose object is no longer doubtful (as I always knew myself) to crush me; as much as I

desire you, & your dear little family with me, unless you & yours can harmonise with Major Eaton & his family, I do not wish you here because I have experienced so much pain, & my enemies have profitted so much by the division, that I cannot think of encountering such scenes again—but with harmony between my family, & Cabinet, I put my ~~family~~ enemies at defience. It has been the division in my Cabinet, and my family adhering to that part of it, who had combined together to prostrate me, thro Eaton, that has done the injury, as far as my enemies have succeeded, and all the influence of Calhoun & his secrete workers, that has defeated all my recommendations to congress (except the Indian bill) will be destroyed by union in my family, and Cabinet. The *writing* read to me to day, has unfolded ~~to me~~ a clue to all the workings in congress—the future plans and projects of my false friends & secrete ~~frien~~ enemies who have boasted of their support of the present administration, and has been apparently foremost in their wishes that I might yield to the expressed wishes of the people & consent to yield to a second election, & gives a clue to the conduct of Genl Creps—remember I hinted to you my opinion that the plan of his letter to you was a sugestion whilst he was here—you could not think of such treachery.[2] My experience, with a knowledge of the treachery of Mr Monroe, & Calhoun, to invegle me under confidence & friendship to my ruin told me that the same might be practiced by others. Look at the late publication by Green, that the publication of Calhoun was shewn to my confidential friend & approved by him, from which it was infered that it meet with my approval—a more palbable falshood was never uttered—the effect intended to be produced by this part of the publication is most wicked—it will meet its reward, so soon as Eaton is able to write—In the mean time you can ask judge Grundy where he was, when by his invitation Eaton called at his lodgings, and who was in consultation with him at Mr Inghams, and from whom he got the manuscript he read to Major Eaton that evening, and why it was that I was not made acquainted with the intended publication, & by whose authority Green has published this impotic falshood that I had seen & was consenting to the publication of Calhouns Book.[3] I was thunderstruct when I saw the publication and at once saw the wickedness of the design, & on enquiry found out the source and those concerned. From the manuscrip of a conversation this day read to me I have collected a clue to this, as well as other plans. The plot so well & secretely planned to rouse the feelings of the nation, first by circulating all over the union the tale of the diference between Calhoun & myself, then the attack by Tazwell & Tiler in the senate moved by Calhoun,[4] & then upon Duff Greens election ushering the Book before the public in the manner it was, all calculated to arouse virginia, & by Calhouns attendence at Richmond to obtain a nomination by the Legislature, all this having failed, Calhoun is to be dropped, & all hands unite on judge McLane who is to be nominated by the antimason, Pennsylvania got over with Newyork, and Pennsylvania "*who calls Mr*

Calhoun her favorite son" this son is to bring her over, and another of her sons, in my Cabinet (says the conversation) is to aid in this holy work—do not *stare*, I have not names but the conversation I have from a source that can be relied on, and when I get the written statement I will with my usual Frankness ask, *is it true*.[5]

I have been thus prolix, that you might have some idea of the treachery of this world, and how it has been made to operate on you & my dear Emily to estrange you from me, & heap injury upon my steadfast friend and his family to seperate us & destroy me, knowing how much I loved you, & as they thought rather than seperate from you, I would prove *recreant to friendship*, and abandon Eaton, when unguarded I would fall an Easy pray to the wicked machinations of Calhoun & his adherents. I trust my Dear Andrew you will profit from experience, and when you & Emily returns, it will be to unite with me & my friends, live in harmony with me, and my bosom friend, aid me in all just & honourable exertions to promote the best interests of my beloved country, & aid in bringing my administration to a happy close—with what joy will I hale your arrival with Emily & the dear little ones with Mary Easten, who I wish to come with you, if you will come with this fixed determination. But O my Dear Andrew, unless you can come with this determination, to harmonise and unite in council with me and my friends, instead of associating with my hidden & secrete enemies, better not to come. Your aid I want, the society of Emily & Mary, with the sweet little ones, would aid to cheer me in my labours, & malancholy moments, your council would add strength to my friends, and aid in shielding us from the snares of our professed friends, but secrete enemies, but to do this it must be in full fellowship, and harmony—for I repeat the words of holy writ, "that a House divided cannot stand." Come then, but come in friendship, & with the determination to act courteously to all my Cabinet whoever they be. If Emily & you will do this, all will meet you in friendship, & will live in harmony and brotherly love.

Mr Surrurier & his lady are here, I gave them a dinner, with my heads of departments and their families, the Foreign Ladies, were courteous & familiar with all, but the usual stifness with some of my Cabinet, ~~as usual~~ but it went off well.[6] Mrs. Surrurier is a charming woman, has visitted me once in the social way in the evening. I am much delighted with them both, and I am sure you, Emily, and Mary, will be. She was particularly attentive to Mrs. Eaton. How much I wish for harmony, & how much sorrow has the want of it occasioned me, I knew the wicked intention, it has fully developed itself, and how much you will be astonished when you come to find out all the hypocracy practiced; and particularly the source, or I shold rather say, *one of them*.

My Dr Andrew attend to bringing on all my public papers, in the trunk, all Major Lees letters to me before he reached Tennessee on the subject of his writing the history of the war, and Mr Calhouns letters to

him (which he inclosed) on that subject, and all Colo A. P Haynes from Decbr. 1817— to 1820—[7]

I have not recd the scrape, of a pen from Mr Lew Jones since you left me. I have not been able to start Dick & his family yet, have been disappointed in getting a *[Lansuse]* to convay them, will start them next Thursday over land.[8]

Look at the colts, if you think any thing can be made out of them here, I will order them on

If Genl Coffee is at Nashvill say to him how much pleasure it would afford me to see him & his daughter here with you also Mr McLamore & his, to whom and their families, present me affectionately.

Enquire of Mr Albert Ward what he & his mother will take for all the old tract of Land, adjoining Mr Watson south along the lane to the Creek and all west. Hutchings wants me to buy it for him, I will give twelve dollars pr acre.[9] Present me affectionately to Emily, Mary, and kiss the two sweet little children for me, present me kindly to the Lady Stockly & his, to William & his dear Little wife to Mr Martin & his family & all my good neighbours & believe me your affectionately

Andrew Jackson

P.S. Major Eaton is still confined, has had a severe attack, is convalescent—he thought hard that you did not come in and see him Call has went away in good feelings with Eaton, says he was always his friend, and assures me my friends will now support him & me thro good & bad report. A. J

ALS, DLC-Donelson Papers (17-0952).

1. This was doubtless James B. Gardiner's memorandum of a March 22 conversation with Ingham. Gardiner tendered AJ a copy on April 2 (below).

2. Since its publication on March 3, Donelson's January 29 letter approving the plan of state senator Solomon Gillespie Krepps (1793–1833) for a Pennsylvania legislative nomination of AJ had been used by the opposition press to embarrass AJ. AJ apparently suspected a plot to entrap Donelson. He mentioned Krepps again to him on May 5 (below).

3. To show that Calhoun had tried to avoid provoking a confrontation with AJ, the *US Telegraph* on March 18 revealed that, before publishing the Seminole correspondence on February 17, Calhoun had "submitted his address to Gen. Jackson's most intimate and confidential friend, and adopted every modification which he suggested." Eaton acknowledged being the friend in the *Globe* on March 26, explaining that illness had prevented his coming forth sooner. Eaton related that he had been approached by Felix Grundy (1777–1840), U.S. senator from Tennessee, who disclosed Calhoun's intent to publish and voiced "great anxiety" that Calhoun's address "should be so framed, as that the President might not feel himself called upon, by any thing it should contain, to offer a reply." Eaton called at Grundy's lodgings the next evening. Grundy was away at Ingham's, but soon returned with a draft of Calhoun's address. He read it to Eaton, making notes on Eaton's suggested changes—all of which, he later told Eaton, were adopted. At the end, Grundy asked if Eaton thought AJ would feel compelled to reply to the address as amended. "My answer was, I thought not, and my anxious desire was that he would not." Grundy then promised to show Calhoun the changes and asked Eaton to tell AJ what had happened. "But I did not communicate the subject to the President, because, upon reflection, I thought it improper to do so." He

also declined a request to show AJ a printed copy that was given to him the day before publication.

4. Littleton Waller Tazewell (1774–1860) and John Tyler (1790–1862) were Virginia's two U.S. senators. On February 1, the Senate voted to ratify the May 7, 1830, commercial treaty with Turkey. On February 18, Tazewell moved to strike from the general appropriation bill an amendment added by the Senate Finance Committee to pay salaries and expenses of the three commissioners who had negotiated the treaty. In a speech on February 22, Tazewell explained that he did not object to compensating them, but that he opposed this mode of retroactively sanctioning AJ's "unconstitutional act" of opening new diplomatic relations with a foreign country by appointing commissioners who were never nominated to the Senate. Circumventing Senate confirmation of diplomatic officers, and hence Senate approval of their mission, was a "usurpation of authority" and a "flagrant violation of the rights and privileges of this body" that threatened the Senate's constitutional check on the president's conduct of foreign affairs (*Register of Debates*, 21st Cong., 2d sess., pp. 213–18). Tyler spoke in support of Tazewell on February 24. On February 26, the Senate approved compensation of $15,000 for the three negotiators, but with the word "commissioners" replaced by "persons heretofore employed in our intercourse with the Sublime Porte" and with an additional proviso that "nothing in this act contained shall be construed as sanctioning, or in any way approving of the appointment of these persons by the President alone, during the recess of the Senate, and without their advice or consent, as Commissioners to negotiate a treaty with the Ottoman Porte" (*Senate Journal*, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 184). The House refused this language, and the Act in final form simply provided $15,000 for unspecified additional "contingent expenses."

5. On February 9, eight days before Calhoun's Seminole publication, *Telegraph* editor Duff Green was elected by the Senate as its printer for the ensuing Twenty-second Congress. Calhoun stopped in Richmond and met with leading politicians on his way home after Congress adjourned. On March 11, Virginia governor John Floyd held a private reception for him attended by about sixty guests, mostly members of the legislature. According to Floyd's diary, "all went away highly gratified, pleased and delighted with Mr. Calhoun. He has won upon all and I think nineteen-twentieths will support him for the Presidency" (Charles H. Ambler, *The Life and Diary of John Floyd* [Richmond, 1918], p. 126). Press accounts had reported plans for the Virginia legislature to nominate Calhoun for the presidency and for a public dinner for him in Richmond, neither of which took place. The speculations about John McLean's Anti-Masonic candidacy and the designation of Calhoun as Pennsylvania's favorite were in James B. Gardiner's memorandum of Ingham's conversation, given to AJ on April 2 (below).

6. Louis Barbe Charles Sérurier (1775–1860) was the new French minister at Washington. He had married Louise Pageot des Noutières (1795–1876).

7. Henry Lee came to Nashville in mid-1827. He was then at work on a biography of AJ, never completed.

8. Llewellyn Jones (1774–1835) of Nottoway, Va., had been engaged to purchase slaves for Donelson and for AJ Jr. He wrote AJ on April 4 (below). In 1830 AJ had purchased Dick (b. c1781), his wife Sally, and four children from Sarah Bronaugh for $900.

9. William Watson, a shoemaker, lived near the Hermitage.

From Samuel T. Bailey

Columbus Ga. 24 March 1831

Dear General

Pardon me for troubling you. I am fully sensible of the many & onerous cares which devolve upon you But I am also sensible that it is your desire & firm *determination* that while you do your duty those whom you

imploy in the public service shall also do theirs. The detachment of U.S. Soldiers stationed at Fort Mitchel I presume were stationed there to do the duty of soldiers & not to insult the American citizens nor to labour for private individuals. That they have not adheared at all times to such duty is susceptible of proof. John Crowell the Indian agent for the Creeks has as you are doubtless aware entertained & exercised the most inveterate hostility for years passed toward Georgia & her citizens And he seems to have infused a share of his own deadly hatred into the minds of the officers stationed at the Fort. Many & often have been the insult which those officers have offered to such citizens as do not proffess friendship for Crowell The Soldiers now while I write are at work eight miles from the Fort & about one below this Town in cutting out a private road for one Steven M Ingersol leading to a ferry which said Ingersol is about establishing as an *opposition* Ferry to the Ferry belonging to the Town of Columbus[1] This Ingersol is & always has been a righthand man of Crowells & an inveterate foe to Georgia—he has for years passed been at law in the courts of Georgia & in the Federal Circuit court to obtain possession of the Ferry in this Town & in every instance the decission has been against him And even then he applied to Crowell to induce him to send a Detachment of Troops & take it by force from the civil authorities of Georgia & an officer had the audacity to send an insulting mandate to the officers of Georgia to deliver the ferry to Ingersol & threatened force if his command was disobey'd. Having been checked in this high handed measure by the proper authority—The Troops are now imployed in cutting out a new road through the wilderness to a private ferry belonging to this same Ingersol to enable him to injure the custom of the Ferry at Columbus. If your Excellency will approve of such conduct in men under your control & in the public service I have for years passed entirely mistaken your character I will not & do not entertain such an idea for a moment. As to Col. Crowell I deem it my duty to say to you that so long as he remains among the Creeks they will not Treat. His brothers have a store at the Agency in which he of course has an interest & they take care to get all the money which is paid the Indians by the goverment & it is notorious that the Crowells & their friends are opposed to the emigration of the Indians It is to *their interest that they the Indians should not emigrate* "Othellos occupation would be gone" & what is worse much cash.[2] But the Indians themselves will be a wretched people so long as they stay here. May God reward you dear General for the great & many services you have rendered your country & preserve you to render many more

S. T. Bailey

Governor Troup of Georgia can inform you who I am if desirable[3]—S. T. B.

[Endorsed by AJ:] The secretary at war will make immediate enquiry into the facts stated & by positive order prevent the like in future A. J

[Endorsed by Eaton:] Red to Maj Genl Macomb—[4]

ALS, DNA-RG 108 (17-0940; M1635-2). Bailey (1796–1870) was a Columbus, Ga., lawyer. Former Alabama congressman John Crowell (1780–1846) was U.S. agent to the Creeks, and his brother Thomas Crowell (d. 1835) was a merchant at the agency. Fort Mitchell, site of the agency, was on the Alabama side of the Chattahoochee River several miles below Columbus.

1. Stephen Miles Ingersoll (1792–1872) was a physician, a former Georgia legislator, and later a Creek emigration agent.

2. In Shakespeare's *Othello* (3.3.349–57), Othello foretells an end to his military career on hearing a report of his wife's infidelity: "Farewell the plumed troops and the big wars . . . Farewell! Othello's occupation's gone."

3. George Michael Troup (1780–1856) had been governor of Georgia and was now a U.S. senator.

4. Major General Alexander Macomb (1782–1841) was the commanding general of the Army. On April 11, his headquarters sent Brevet Major Philip Wager (d. 1835), commanding at Fort Mitchell, a copy of Bailey's letter with instructions to "report the facts" (DNA-RG 108, M857-1). Wager reported on May 1 that Bailey was known as "a coward & a liar" and that his charges were all "base calumnies." No officers had insulted anyone, and citizens and soldiers enjoyed a "most friendly intercourse." Crowell had no influence over Wager or his men and the Crowells had nothing to do with the agency store, run by the post sutler. Wager explained that Ingersoll had operated a ferry between landings leased from the Indians and the town of Columbus. The town had revoked his lease on a pretext and seized the site. In Wager's absence, Lieutenant Michael Marye Clark ordered it restored, but Wager countermanded the demand rather than clash with civil authority. Ingersoll then sued to recover his ferry but lost. He subsequently opened a competing ferry below the town, offering better service and free transport for Indians and for official traffic. For these reasons, and to keep his troops occupied, Wager had them cut a road from the new ferry to Fort Mitchell. Wager claimed that citizens of Columbus understood the new ferry as a benefit, not an injury, to the town (DNA-RG 94, M567-65).

From Thomas J. Lacy

Nashville March 24th. 1831.

Dear Sir,

I have been waiting to write for some time; but knowing the multiplicity and burden of your public engagements, I though it best to defer it, till the adjournment of Congress. The tide of popular favor and affection that bore you into office, has been rapidly increasing ever since; and its not in the power of open enemies or treacherous foes to check or turn aside its progress. A nation's love and admiration, is generally, if not universally, the result of great and virtuous services; and he who has attained that preeminent distinction, will when he looks back, find some who were his most unpincipled and perfidious assailants, claiming in his elevation, to be his most steadfast and upright friends. In no controvercy in your life, have you ever appeared to greater advantage than in the present difference

with the Vice President. No honest or unbiased mind can help perceiving the miserable subterfuges to which he is reduced. Instead of answering directly to a plain simple charge, or rather inquiry, he turns upon Mr Crawford and others with vengance, and hopes by arrengning them to hide his own guilt and shame. In this he is much mistaken; and the people are not so dull and stupid as he foolishly imagines. I have been asked a dozen times by plain unlettered men, why is that he has to write a ~~whole~~ book to prove his former friendship. Many of your pretended friends say, they regret the occurence; for myself I am never greived at any thing, that places men in their true and proper light. The strictures of the Glode upon his conduct I have devawer with the greatest pleashure; and I think they have striped him of all his false and borrowed honors, and ~~has~~ left him exposed with merited disgrace and mortification, in a laurelless field. I now know, what I always believed, that he possesses neither patriotism or elevated ambition, and that he is a worst man than either Clay or Adams. This opinion I have had long suspended in my mind, but I refained from expressing it, simply because I thought he had in the Seminole war redered you essential services. If he was not then advocating your cause in the Cabinet and in Congress, why was it that all your friends was then lauding him to the skies? Although a boy I remember to have heard many extolling for sustaining you, especially my poor father, who previously did not like him, but on that accout formed an attachment for his character, and went with that opinion of him to the grave. Its in vain for him to hope to escape from the severe sensure and indignation of an abused, wronged, and affected people. When an attack is made upon their Friend and Benefactor, and upon one, whose civil services and milatary acheivements have covered them and himself with imperichable glory, they will not stand by unmoved and unconcerned! His happiness, and his honor is theirs; and they will resent the insult and injury attemped to be offered, with filial affection, and as a matter of their own private concern. This sentiment is deeply and sincerely felt in my heart; and rejoice that ~~any~~ an opportunity has again occured, by which I can render some little good, and that the time is come, when hypocricy will let fall her mask, and selfishness forget her cunning.

My wife joins me in the most affectionate regard to yourself and to Maj: Eaton and his Lady.

Accept Dear and Honored Sir, the assurance of my unfeigned attachment, and may a gracious Providence incircle you with its blessings!

Thos. J. Lacy

P.S. If you can steal time from your cares and public engagements, and drop me a line, if it was any a word or two, I should be more than thankful. This pleashure I know not whether I aught to ask, as you so much

burdened by more important buisness, which doubtless occupies every moment of your time.

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr Lacy to be answered A. J answered May 7th. 1831

ALS, DLC (39; 17-0961). Lacy (c1803–1849) was a lawyer, appointed by AJ as an Arkansas judge in 1834.

To John Boyle

March 25th 1831

The President with his respects to the acting Sec. of the Navy, will thank him to send for the Presidents perusal the letter of Commodore Bainbridge to the Secretary of the Navy on the subject of the suspension of his account for extra pay as member of the late Courtmartial at Philadelphia, and the Sec's answer thereto

[Endorsed by Boyle:] See letter 25th Feby Detached from Command 11th. March 1831.

AN, DNA-RG 45 (M124-127). Boyle (c1777–1849) was chief clerk of the Navy Department, and since March 19 acting Secretary in John Branch's absence. Captain William Bainbridge (1774–1833), a celebrated naval hero, had been commandant of the Philadelphia navy yard since 1827. He had presided there at the court-martial of Captain John O. Creighton, which concluded February 17. The next day, board member Captain George C. Read applied to the Navy Department for the customary per diem allowance for service on court-martials. On February 21, Treasury fourth auditor Amos Kendall wrote Read refusing his claim, on grounds that Read resided and was stationed in Philadelphia and the law confined per diem to "officers performing extra duty beyond the limits of their station." On February 24, Read protested to Branch that Kendall's ruling was "altogether wrong" and a violation of well-established practice. On February 25, Bainbridge likewise wrote Branch, contesting Kendall's interpretation and demanding a per diem for himself (DNA-RG 45, M125-156).

Bainbridge and Kendall had tangled previously, in September 1830, when Kendall issued a circular prescribing tighter procedures for reimbursing officers' travel expenses. Bainbridge had sent the circular back to Kendall and wrote Branch, on September 27, 1830, that "I deny in toto the right of any officer of the Treasury Department giving an order to me an officer of the Navy" (DNA-RG 45, M125-152). Kendall had then retreated, explaining that he did not mean to issue orders. Now, on March 3, 1831, Branch wrote Bainbridge, upholding Kendall's refusal of the per diem and rebutting several precedent cases that Bainbridge had invoked (DNA-RG 45, M149-19). Bainbridge replied on March 5. He denied Kendall's authority as auditor to "decide legally" a question of statutory interpretation. Bainbridge closed: "But I perceive the finger of resentment from Amos Kendall; and I have yet to learn his claim on the nation, to do me official injustice, for *personally*, he shall not do it with *impunity*. You will do me a favor to submit this letter to the consideration of The President, on his decision I will most cheerfully submit" (DNA-RG 45, M125-157). Branch removed Bainbridge from his navy yard command on March 11.

To John Boyle

March 26th 1831—

The President with his respects to the acting Secretary of the Navy and informs him that from further information recd. since the interview this morning, it is necessary, that the original letter from Commodore Bainbridge to the Secretary of the Navy, that induced the Secretary (from the indecorous language in the same) to report the case to me, and on his sugestion, to approve the order for his removal from his then Command— you will therefore please to have it searched for, & laid before the President.

AN, DNA-RG 45 (M124-127). Boyle had answered AJ's March 25 request by sending him Bainbridge's first letter to Branch, written February 25. The indecorous language was in Bainbridge's second letter of March 5, which was now in Amos Kendall's possession. Boyle retrieved it from him and submitted it to AJ this same day (DNA-RG 45, M125-157).

From A. S. Hill

Williamstown March 26 1831

Honored Sir

I have taken the present opportunity to let you know my opinion concerning the salary of John Randolph, our respected ambassador to Russia. But permit me first to say, that it is and ever has been my sincere, and ardent desire, that you might enjoy unbounded health and prosperity lavish upon you her smiles, and that you might meet from this country, of which at present your Excellency has the honor of being Chief Magistrate, the just reward of a reelection which a life hard spent in her service, and especially your merits, and fitness for such an office loudly call for. If I had a fortune at my command and knew by casting it away to a few dollars would be the means of your reelection it would be far from me to hesitate doing so. For I am fully aware that your Excellency has nothing in view, but the welfare and prosperity of the country, which your evident endeavours to do so, and the present administration is not a little proof. But, Sir, permit me to return to my subject. I fully concurr with the opinion of Mr Cambreling in relation to this subject. That it is the most miserable thing ever started in Congress. But Sir If our Ambassador, has not performed the duty, for which he was nominated and which he would have performed had not sickness and bodily indisposition prevented I can not perceive that it is any reason why he should be maliciously deprived of his salary. Have not preceding ministers had the privilege of retiring to some other court more congenial to their health, if their health demanded it, than for what, is Mr Randolph to be deprived of his salary? for no other reason than

that he is a sound Republican, and to gratify the malicious dispositions of his political enemies, who are walking to and fro about the earth, seeking whom they may devour. Sir I contend that he had a right to flee from the cold and freezing climate of a Russian winter, for he had the privilege, the same privilege that other ministers have taken the advantage of. I am well assured that nothing but malicious envy is the cause of this miserable ~~debate~~ question. Let enemies revile, and lay plots, but John Randolph, for a barrier, against every inimical attack, has his true and honest Republican principles, and integrity of Character. The question itself is an infallible Proof of the disturbances existing in this highly enlightened country, and it is also a proof that the enemies of Republicanism, are plotters for the seperation of the states. But, Your Excellency, time can only decide, the differences of disputes now agitating our country. Permit me to end by wishing, that the days of your happiness may never dissapear, and that your life may be gilded by the sunshine of prosperity and you may continue to hold the same Honorable office as you do at present, as long as that energetick mind of yours can sway a nation, and your arm protect its borders—Your Devoted & Humble Servant.

A S Hill

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr. Hill on the subject of Mr J. R. salary as Minister disaproves the course of the opposition—

ALS, DLC (39). Hill wrote from Williamstown, Mass. On January 12, 1831, Ohio congressman William Stanbery had moved to strike the salary for a minister to Russia from the general appropriation bill, arguing that John Randolph had effectually vacated the office by quitting the country and taking up residence elsewhere. A debate ensued, in which New York congressman Churchill Cambreleng defended Randolph and his right to a salary on January 13 and February 7 (*Register of Debates*, 21st Cong., 2d sess., pp. 484, 487, 501–3, 621–26). Stanbery's motion was defeated on February 9.

To Andrew Jackson Jr.

(Private)

Washington March 29th. 1831

My Dr Son

yours of the 27th. is just recd., and I agreable to your request I hasten to reply

On the subject of the consulate at Tangiers I have only to remark that for some time, (& for information expected from the barbary powers) we cannot fill that office. I would do any thing I could with propriety to gratify you, & oblige your friend Mc.Cauley. I will have a full conversation with the Secretary of State on the subject of our consulates as soon as leisure will permit—& if any thing can be done for your friend you shall be informed of it.[1]

I have been fearful that all my cabinet were not acting fairly, the appointments you have named did not escape my notice; but the[y] were under the positive power of the Secretary of the Treasury, and I could only suggest to the Secretary. Major Bradford was named to him by me, objections were named, such as I had not the means of rebutting, that if true, made his appointment im[pro]per, "that he was insolvant," and security for a public defaulter.

Solomon says, "that there is a time for all things under the sun"[2]—and there is a time when my Cabinet will be a unit, and when intrigue, & appointments to office to favor ~~a~~ particular individuals, will cease, if it has been practiced by any of them.

I feel grateful for the friendly enquiries after my health by the good citizens of Philadelphia, to whom, present my Sincere respects—and do not neglect to present me to Mrs. Price & her amiable family. Mr Price was my sincere & much respected friend, & his memory is dear to me—do not forget to call & see Doctor Ely & present me kindly to him & his family and to Mrs. Carswell. When you see Miss Brown present my respects to her & enquire after her uncle Mr James Brown.[3]

I am, to day, afflicted with a return of my severe head ache, I have taken medicine ~~to day~~, & hope I will be cleer of it by tomorrow, I feel quite lost since you left me, but as your health is improving, I do not wish this to shorten your tour, or hasten your return, sooner than you intended when you left me—take care of yourself, and mix not with bad or disolute company—and I pray god to take you under his holy keeping[.] your affectionate father

Andrew Jackson

P.S. I am happy to learn that the Globe is so well patronised in P.a—

ALS, CtY (mAJs). AJ Jr. was in Philadelphia.

1. The U.S. consuls at Tangier and Tripoli had both died in 1830. On March 2 the Senate had confirmed AJ's appointment of Joseph Saul at Tripoli. Saul declined, and on July 29 AJ named Daniel Smith McCauley (c1798–1852) of Philadelphia to replace him. The Tangier consulate was filled in August.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1.

3. Mrs. Price was likely Ellen Matlack Price (1780–1862), widow of AJ's late friend and Philadelphia merchant Chandler Price (1766–1827). Ezra Stiles Ely (1786–1861) was a prominent Philadelphia Presbyterian divine and an old friend of AJ. In 1829 he had been a prominent accuser of Margaret Eaton. Margaret Means Carswell was Ely's mother-in-law. James Brown (1766–1835), now of Philadelphia, had been U.S. senator from Louisiana and then minister to France. Miss Brown was likely Susan Catherine Brown (b. c1810), daughter of James's late brother Samuel Brown.

From Martin Van Buren

March 29—

Dr Sir

Thinking it best that neither your name or mine should go into the Bank in connection with the advance to Major Cameron I have given him a line of introduction to the Cashier from whom he will ascertain what security he wants & he will then call on Major Lewis to endorse for him which will be the better course[.] Yours truly

MVB

ALS, NN (17-1007). John Adams Cameron (1788–1838) was a North Carolina lawyer and politician whom AJ had appointed consul at Vera Cruz, Mexico. Richard Smith (1786–1864) was cashier of the Washington branch of the Bank of the United States.

To William Berkeley Lewis

March 29th 1831

The situation of Major Cameron requires some advance to enable him to get to the port assigned him he can only draw his pay quarterly, therefore has to arrange matters with the Bank—you will see from the within note, that Mr. Van Buren has thought it best that my name should be kept out of view, and that you should become the ostensible endorser. There is no risque but the life of Major Cameron; if you will endorse, this shall be my obligation to take up the notes, should his life not be spared, for the time the bills are drawn, say for half, or a whole year, as may be required

Andrew Jackson

ANS, NN (17-1003).

From John Rhea

Blountville—Sullivan—Tennessee 30th March 1831—

Dear President,

I received your Letter of the fourth of March last—it appears to have been directed to me at Rutledge. I will be with you as soon as I can, but know not when. I desire to have a copy of the Letter (from you) in which you alluded to me.[1] I am gratifyed in being informed by you that Judge Overton and his nephew Samuel Overton saw the letter from me to you and know the contents, and I now request you to write to Judge Overton and his same nephew Samuel, and desire them to inform you of all they

know and remember of the contents of that Letter, and as soon as you receive letters thereof from them, please to send on copies to me here at Blountville, if I be not previously at Washington, that is before you receive them, and I request that the Judge and his nephew may tell the date of that letter or as near as they can.[2] I desire every information you can give to me on the subject. All letters sent by you to me here I will direct to be taken care of. You think you will have to come out—if so, be not in haste. when you receive this please write to me, this Letter is confidential—believe me to be with sincere estem your friend & servant

John Rhea

P.S. April 2d—1831—I have received your letter of the twentyfirst of last month—with the two accompanying papers—Circuit Court in Hawkins County—begins next monday. I am to be there at Court and will return I hope soon here. I will then return a copy of your said letter to you with the two papers—of which I will retain copies—but I request you to send to me a copy of your said confidential Letter to ~~me~~ Mr Monroe—it is necessary that I have a copy thereof; and copies of the Letters from Judge Overton & his Nephew, containing their statements of what they know and remember relative to the letter you allude to ~~from me~~ to you from me. I request a copy from you of your said confidential Letter to Mr Monroe. ~~please send it as soon as you receive this letter.~~ accept my best wishes—your friend & servant

John Rhea—

ALS, DLC (39). Samuel Rhea enclosed this letter to AJ on April 4. AJ endorsed the envelope, "The Honble. John Rhea—to be filed with the Calhoun papers A. J."

1. This was AJ's January 6, 1818, letter to Monroe (*Jackson Papers*, 4:166–68).

2. Samuel Ragland Overton (1786–1827) was the late son of John Overton's brother Waller. John Overton gave AJ a statement about the letter on June 2 (below).

From William Bernard Conway

*[Founded in 1824, the American Sunday School Union was a non-denominational society led by clergy of several Protestant faiths. Its annual meeting at Philadelphia in May 1830 resolved that the Union, "in reliance upon divine aid, will, within two years, establish a Sunday-school in every destitute place where it is practicable, throughout the Valley of the Mississippi" (*Sixth Report of the American Sunday-School Union *[Philadelphia, 1830], p. 4). On February 16, 1831, a meeting of citizens was held at Washington to support that resolution. Senator Felix Grundy chaired, and speakers included Daniel Webster, Theodore Frelinghuysen, and several congressmen. After opening addresses, it was announced "that the* PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES*, (who is a contributor to the Society's funds,) had engaged to attend the meeting, but was prevented by*

*ill health. He however sent his best wishes for the prosperity of the cause" (*Speeches of Messrs. Webster, Frelinghuysen and Others, at the Sunday School Meeting *[Philadelphia, 1831], p. 4).]*

Pittsburg Pa, March 31st. 1831

Sir—

Aware that the nature of your important public duties is such as to afford you but little time to attend to matters unconnected therewith, I should not obtrude myself on your attention, unless fully justified by the circumstances which impel me to address you.

In doing this, I do not approach you with fulsome declarations of friendship, which your knowledge of mankind would induce you to regard with suspicion, and which a sense of moral propriety, sincerity, and honor forbid me to offer. That I have been your friend is well known amongst those to whom I am known personally ~~and~~ or by character; and that I am still your friend, is a fact sufficiently established by the contents of the "*American Manufacturer*"; a news paper which I established in this city, better than a year ago, and of which I am the Senior Editor.

Since your first appearance before the people of these United States, as a candidate for the highest office in their power to bestow, I have Sir, from a firm conviction of your capacity and entegrity, supported your claims, and defended your character, with an honest, sincere, and unwavering zeal. With the pen and tounge I have done all that was in my power to promote your election, and since that event, to support your administration. In pursuing this course I was uninfluenced by hopes of reward, or dread of punishment; and from an honest conviction, as I said above, of your capacity and entegrity, voluntarily and honoraby advocated your claims to the support of the people.

Having acted on these principles; having supported you, because I was well assured that in you the free institutions of our country would find a firm and uncompromising frend, and protector, the same honesty of purpose would oblige me to oppose you, with equal enegy, whenever *plain facts*, would prove, (not vague and unfounded report,) that the preservation of those institutions, in their purity, had ceased to govern your conduct. That you would, at this advanced period of a life spent for the welfare and glory of your country, turn aside from the plain path of duty, is an event, which your former course, would render scarcely possible. True, human virtue may, at any period of life, yield to the seductive allurements of temptation; particularly if evil assume the garb of goodness, and vice divests itself of its native deformity.

The foregoing remarks have been ellicited by reading the proceedings of a meeting, held in the city of Washington on the 16th of February last; the object of which was to promote the establishment of *Sunday Schools* in the valley of the Mississipi.

Incorporated with the proceedings of that meeting I find the following remarks—"It was stated, to the meeting, that the *President of the U.S.* (who is a contributor to the society' funds) had *engaged to attend* the meeting, but was prevented by ill health. He, however, sent his best wishes for the prosperity of the cause"!! Such, Sir, is the statement concerning yourself. And this statement, brief as it is, contains all that is necessary to show that you are an advocate for the *Sunday school Union!* This statement asserts flatly that you contribute your money to promote the objects of this institution, that, you had *engaged* to attend, and sanction by *your presence*, a public meeting, assembled to promote its views; and that, being prevented by ill health, you sent your best wishes for the prosperity of the cause!

This was giving the sanction of the President of the U. States to that institution. But this statement, I am inclined to believe, was not sanctioned by you; and may be another of the manifold artifices to which the fanatical leaders of that *sectarian* plot, have had recourse, to promote their designs; which designs I must believe, until better informed, are sinister, and highly detrimental to the happiness and duration of this republican government.

I have read with much regret the speeches of *public men*, of *members* of *Congress*, who attended the *sunday school* meeting at Washington. From some of those men I expected more liberality of sentiment. I am, however, well aware that at that meeting they did not act *officially*, that they were not there in their representative capacity, and that the measures they there adopted ~~did~~ will not become the "supreme law of the land." Still they were members of Congress, and the man who would publicly express his approbation of such proceedings in a Sunday school meeting, would advocate the same measures in the councils of the nation. The leading object of the "Sunday school Union" appears to be, as expressed by its leaders, the dissemmination of "*religious knowledge"!* in the Valley of the Mississipi.[1] They wish to inculcate religion in~~to~~ the minds of the rising generation. What religion, I would respectfully enquire? This question is answered by ascertaing the religion of those who are at the head of this institution. *Presbyterianism* is the religion to be inculcated; and *civil ascendency* in the affairs of this government, and not the salvation of souls, is the grand ultimatum to which its ambitious and fanatical leaders aspire.

But why select the Valley of the Mississipi in preference to any other section of the country?

With the literary institutions of the Valley of the Mississipi I presume you are well acquainted. And religion is inculcated in that region, in as ~~much~~ great purity as in any other. The Catholic religion, the religion of the venerable *Charles Carroll*, is taught and practised in the great valley; and if that religion be erroneous, let the *christian politicians* convince the people of their errors by sound argument, and sanctity of life, and

not force sunday schools, and strange doctrine upon them without their consent; or if they will do this, let not the president of the U.S. *sanction* the outrage on the unalienable rights of the citizens.[2] If those, who are thus engaged, had confined their plan to the simple purposes of *education*, unconnected with *sectarian religion*, I should not offer an objection to the undertaking; but even in that case, the thing should not be confined to any particular section, but should be as general as it is important.

In a country like this, where the rights of conscience are guaranteed to *every* citizen by the constitution, those, in public life, should weigh well the tendency of their actions, before they bring their high official influence to bear upon objects such as the one under consideration. The *letter* of the Constitution may be apparently respected, whilst its *spirit*, its better part, may be artfully violated. And any high public functionary who would abbet such schemes, as the Sunday School Union, with a full view of the *consequences* which must result from its success, can have no sincere regard for the rights of the people, the obligations of his office, or the sanctity of the constitution.

Unwilling to say any thing on this subject, as regards your excellency, until I shall have ascertained your views in relation to the matters in question, I most respectfully request a brief, tho' satisfactory statement of your sentiments on the sunday school Union—and particularly, whether the extract I have quoted from the proceedings of the Washington meeting be *correct,* or *otherwise*; as concerns your excellency. I wish to review the proceedings in full, and an honest regard for you, and for justice, prevents me from doing so, until after I shall have ascertained your sentiments, expressed by yourself.

I have been plain and candid in the above remarks~~—and hope to be answered in the sa~~ but not the less friendly. I am, sir, your friend, and devoted servant

Wm. B. Conway

I have kept a copy of this letter, and would wish to know whether I shall be at liberty to publish your answer.

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr Convay to be concisely answered A. J answered 4th. of april 1831—rough draft within on the subject of the union Sabath school—A. J

ALS, DLC (39). AJ replied on April 4 (below). Conway (c1802–1839) was a Pittsburgh lawyer and editor of *The American Manufacturer.*

1. Daniel Webster's speech at the meeting applauded "the diffusion of religious knowledge" by means of Bibles and Sunday schools (*Speeches of Messrs. Webster, Frelinghuysen and Others, at the Sunday School Meeting*, pp. 22–23).

2. Charles Carroll (1737–1832) of Maryland was the sole surviving signer of the Declaration of Independence.

From James Monroe

New York March 1831.

Dear Sir

I owe it to candour, and the friendly relation, which has so long existed between us, to communicate to you a copy of a letter, which I have written to Mr Ingersoll, in reply to one from him, on a very interesting subject. Being a member of the Senate of the U States when the first bank was instituted, under the administration of Genl. Washington, I voted against it, and in 1815, when the second was instituted under Mr Madison being then a member of his admn. I concurr'd with him, and voted for it.[1] This change in my opinion, was produced, by my experience of the embarrassments and losses of the govt., during the last war. Being called on by Mr Ingersoll, who is a member of the Pena. assembly, for my opinion on those subjects, and also whether a bank of the Treasury was to be preferr'd to one of Individuals, ~~for which I had voted~~, I have thought it a duty which I owe to my country, as well as to my own character, to give him an explicit answer on each point. ~~I have not done it, with any unfriendly feeling towards you, for no such sentiment is expressed in the letter, nor is any such felt. It is to give you this assurance that I make to you this communication~~ It has been a cause of serious regret, that we should entertain sentiments so different, on so very interesting a subject.

In recommending a different bank, you expressd your sentiments independently, in the discharge of your duty, and I have done the same in the discharge of mine.

It has been a cause of serious regret to me, to find that on this interesting subject, there should have been, any difference of opinion between us.

[Endorsed by Monroe:] J M to Andw. Jackson Bank U States

AL draft, ViFreJM (17-0689). Former Philadelphia congressman and U.S. district attorney Charles J. Ingersoll was presently serving in the Pennsylvania legislature, where on February 24 he had introduced a resolution upholding the constitutionality and utility of the Bank of the United States. The Bank was a mixed institution, with private interests holding four-fifths of its stock and electing twenty of its twenty-five directors. In January, Ingersoll had written Monroe and also James Madison asking their opinions on Jackson's alternative, proposed in his first two annual messages, of a wholly government bank organized as a branch of the Treasury. Madison's February 2 reply, published by Ingersoll, decidedly disapproved it (Philadelphia *National Gazette*, March 5 and 17, 1831). Monroe's reply was not published, but in surviving drafts he likewise condemned Jackson's project, saying in one that "a bank established by the govt. on the funds of the union, under the controul of the Executive, might by the abuse of the power, shake our free system of govt. if not overthrow it" (PHi).

1. Monroe was a U.S. senator when the first Bank of the United States was chartered by Congress in 1791. He was Madison's secretary of state when the second Bank was chartered in 1816.

April

From George Gilliss

The President. U. States
To 2d Pres: church Dr
For 1 qr. Rent pew No. 29. due 1 Apl. 1831. $7:50
Recd Payt

Geog Gilliss
Treas Ch

ADS, DLC (39). Gilliss (c1785–1857) was a clerk in the Fourth Auditor's office. Edward Dunlap Smith was installed as minister of the Second Presbyterian Church on April 1. He succeeded John Nicholson Campbell, AJ's adversary in the Eaton controversy, who had resigned in June 1830.

From Little Leader et al.

Aprille the 1st. 1831 Choctaw Agency

To his Excellency Andrew Jackson president of the US of amaraca

Sir I address you as my father friend and brother to Inform you that I myself and all the warriers women and children that lives within the limits of my Command has made up their minds and Determined to Stay at their homes and I wish you to write and let me know whither we have to come under the laws of the State wherein we Reside or not we wish you to Do all you can for us and make us as happy as possible. any and all the warriers that wishes to Stay and come under my banners I Shall take them by the hand and protect them as far as I possibly can. I want you to let me know what Quantity of land you will allow for me and my people ~~we~~ I have always had about two hundred warriers at my Command and they have the most of them wives and children more or less I have nothing more to say but I hope our great father above will bless and protect us in our own Country if it pleases our great Father friend and Brother to let us Remain in peace where we are no more but I Remain your Son & friend and Brother

Hopiaskitenah or little Leader his X mark
Hopiahthlocko his X mark

Nockhatah his X mark
anumbula his X mark
Iahocaulubbee his X mark

DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-169). Copy, DNA-RG 46 (17-1060). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 422–23 (Serial 245). Hopaii Iskitini (also rendered Hopia Isketena) or Little Leader (c1780–1852) was a Choctaw who had fought with AJ in several campaigns. He had reportedly spoken against the removal treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek, but signed it and was granted a reservation of 960 acres in a supplemental article. Eaton answered Little Leader by writing Choctaw chief Greenwood Leflore on May 7 to "direct his attention to the 14th. article of the treaty. He can remain only by becoming a Citizen and subject to the laws of Mississippi" (DNA-RG 75, M21-7; *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, p. 283, Serial 245). That article provided a homestead grant to every Choctaw head of household who within six months of the treaty's ratification declared his intention to remain as a citizen of the state. On August 23, one day before the deadline, Little Leader registered to remain under this provision, claiming 1,920 acres for himself and five children (*SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 3, p. 141, Serial 246).

From James Booker Gardiner

Washington, Apl. 2d. 1831

Dear Sir,

As I am about leaving the city, I conceive it a duty which I owe you as a personal friend, and a supporter of your Administration, to lay before you a synopsis of a conversation which I held with the Hon Saml. D. Ingham on the 22d ultimo. The views contained in this conversation may possibly be unknown to you; and for *your* satisfaction only are they communicated, with liberty to make such use of them as your discretion may dictate, in case any future contingencies should require them for your own justification. I have the honor to be, with sentiments of high veneration, Your mo. Obdt. Servt.

J. B. Gardiner

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr Gardiners letter inclosing a synopsis of a conversation had & held with Mr Ingham on the 22nd. of March 1831—

ALS, DLC (39). Gardiner (1789–1837) had been an Ohio legislator and Jackson campaign editor. His nomination by AJ to be register of the Tiffin land office was unanimously rejected by the Senate in May 1830. AJ had just appointed him special commissioner to treat with the Ohio Indians for their removal. He received his instructions from the War Department on March 29 and his formal credential on March 31.

[Enclosure: Memorandum by Gardiner]

March 22d. 1831.

The following is the substance of a conversation held by Mr. Ingham with me this day.

There was a feeling prevaling, which rendered it difficult to do business here at this time. *He* had taken no part in the existing collisions, and found he had quite enough to do, to attend to *his own* official business. He had told Gen. Jackson, long ago, that his Department required his whole attention, and that *he* shoul not have time to intermingle with the *political* affairs of the Administration.

Something was wrong *somewhere*; and there was much discontent and bad feeling. Much of the present difficulties had grown out of the *early measures*. He never saw the propriety or necessity of many removals; nor of some *strong measures*, adopted solely on the ground of Gen. Jackson's personal popularity. He had asked them, what was the *use* of encroaching upon the popularity of Gen. Jackson. If it were strong, (as it undoubtedly was *at that time*,) it was best, not only to keep it so, but to *increase* it by all conciliatory measures.

For his own part, *he* had no reason to complain. Congress had sustained *him* in all *he* had done, or asked. The reason of this, he supposed, was, because he had taken a quiet course, attending only to his own duties, and not participating in the quarrels or *prospective* views of others.

Ohio was not only debateable ground, but *worse than that now*. Pennsylvania was little better than debateable *now*, but he would not "*sign an insurance*" for her another year. She had much state pride; and plumed herself a good deal upon the fair and humane manner, in which she had acquired her territory from the aborigines—not by cutting their throats and murdering them, as most of the other states had done; but under the peaceable negociations of William Penn. It was therefore that she took the stand which she did, on the *Indian question*. If such of her members as voted against the Indian bill last winter, had turned a somerset, and went entirely over to the enemy, as Stanberry did, they would have been re-elected by increased majorities, as he was. Some of them, who attempted to recant, or palliate their course, had been *beaten*.[1]

Local feelings will, and generally ought to prevail. And the foolish attempts made here, to array the constituents of a member against him, because he did not pursue such a course as pleased *some here*, always had recoiled upon the Administration. Congress would think for themselves; and would not be *scolded* into measures. It was always better to *conciliate*; rather than *irritate*. When members complained of this thing and that, and were told that the *popularity of Gen. Jackson* would sustain it; they naturally became more tenacious of their own power, and less inclined to yield to the wishes of the President. No man's popularity ought to be a shield for a wrong measure. No earthly possession was so uncertain as popularity. Even Gen. Washington lost *his*, towards the close of his Administration. There was a majority of two against ~~us~~ him in Congress, on a vote relative to the correspondence preceding Jay's Treaty.[2] Gen. Jackson was *yet* popular, but *no one could tell what two years had done, or what two years more might bring forth*. He would not endorse *even*

for Pennsylvania for that time. He would not *sign a policy* for New-York for 99 per cent. New-York, Pennsylvania and Ohio, under the new census, could settle any question of power, in the union, *if united*. The non-slaveholding states *ought*, and *would be* united. For 34 years out of 42, we had been governed by slaveholding Presidents. He did not object to a fair reciprocity; but the odds had been too great on one side.[3]

The anti-masons, to a man, were against Gen. Jackson. They acted ~~in mak~~ foolishly in making their principles so strictly a political test. They lost their Governor in New-York by *that*; and in Pennsylvania, last fall, they did not effect as much as they might have done.[4] If they would not *avow* that they supported a man on the *particular ground* of his being an anti-mason, they could be *equally united* in his support, and gain support for him from *others* at the same time.

There was to be a "tremendous meeting" in Philadelphia. Hemphill was to be placed at the head of it. It would have a powerful effect. Hemphill had became very warm. He had been a true friend of Gen. Jackson, and could forgive him every thing else, but the danger in which he had placed the Bank of the United States. Pennsylvania would not rest easy on that subject.[5]

If the meeting at Baltimore should take up Mr. McLean, instead of Mr. Clay, he would *give us more trouble than any other man*! They Clay men were not very warm for *him* in Pennsylvania. They took him in preference to Gen. Jackson as a *choice of evils*. The case would be very different with *McLean* in Pennsylvania. The *methodist Jacksonians* in that State, (who were very numerous) would support him to a man—*and so they would everywhere*. Of the anti-masons doing so, there could be no doubt; but if they supported him *ostensibly* on the *main ground* of his being an anti-mason, they would not do him as much good as they could, if they united, and *agreed to leave that out of sight*. McLean was highly esteemed in New-York. In Ohio there was no kind of doubt about him. The *Clay men would prefer him, or any one else*, before Jackson. In Pennsylvania the Quakers and methodists, *in a body*, would go for McLean, and a *great many Presbyterians*.

The power of *sympathy* among the people of the United States was, perhaps, as strong as any other feeling. They would not look on with indifference and see *one friend* crushed and trampled in the dust, to gratify any present or *prospective* views of *another*. Pennsylvania *knew* Mr. Calhoun to be a strong and sincere friend to Gen. Jackson. *She called him her son; and would not see him sacrificed*.

He did not think Mr. Calhoun desired to be a candidate; because he had thought Gen. Jackson ought to serve a second term. His *reputation* was dearer to him than the Presidency.

The people had not yet looked to the question of a successor to Gen. Jackson. They did not wish to do so; but if they think we are divided here

among ourselves, they may tell us all to go about our business. No *divided* Administration could be a successful one. At this time it was doubtful whether Gen. Jackson had a majority with him in Congress. And how is a President to effect, even the most salutary measures, without the co-operation of Congress?

Gen. Jackson may *possibly* get Pennsylvania; but it would be a *hard battle*.

Gen. Jackson would now be elected; but great changes might take place in public sentiment in two years. All depended upon the future course of the Administration.

He could not tell *why*, but it seemed to him that some men *would become popular*, without either *general* or *specific* causes. And others would *lose their influence*, without a *visible* dereliction of duty. Some how or other, *Mr. McLean's* popularity was *like a ball rolling in the snow*. (Here it was observed that *snow would melt* in a *southern* clime.) He said "an *avalanche* would last many years."

Too much anxiety to *retain* their places, had greatly tended to facilitate the downfal of the *last* Administration—(Adams & Clay.)—He hoped *this* would be more prudent. No public man ought to desire to remain in office, longer than the people *voluntarily* approved of his acts. The people will not be *forced*; and *it is unsafe to substitute personal popularity for public utility*.

J. B. Gardiner

ADS, DLC (39).

1. Pennsylvania's founding proprietor William Penn (1644–1718) had been renowned for his peaceful dealings with Indians. The Indian Removal Act passed the House of Representatives on May 26, 1830, by 102 to 97. Of Pennsylvania's twenty-six congressmen, six voted for it, fifteen against it, and five did not vote. Thirteen of the fifteen had been elected as Jacksonians. Ohio congressman William Stanbery (1788–1873) was elected to Congress on a Jackson ticket in 1828, but broke from the administration and was reelected in 1830 as an anti-Jacksonian.

2. On June 26, 1795, the Senate by 14 to 12 removed the injunction of secrecy on Washington's June 8 message conveying the Jay Treaty and correspondence.

3. John Adams and John Q. Adams of Massachusetts were the non-slaveholders. In apportionment based on the 1830 census, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio together gained 13 seats in the House of Representatives, giving them 87 out of a total of 240.

4. In November 1830, Jacksonian candidate Enos Thompson Throop (1784–1874) defeated National Republican and Anti-Masonic candidate Francis Granger by about 8,000 votes for governor of New York. In Pennsylvania's October 1830 elections, seven Anti-Masonic candidates won election to Congress, and Anti-Masons reportedly elected 4 of 32 state senators and 27 of 100 state representatives.

5. A report had circulated that Pennsylvania congressman Joseph Hemphill (1770–1842) would chair an upcoming April 4 Henry Clay meeting in Philadelphia. Former congressman John Sergeant actually presided. The meeting adopted resolutions that criticized AJ's administration, nominated Clay for president, and endorsed a call for a national convention at Baltimore in December to choose a vice presidential nominee.

From J. W. Q. Harding

Montgomrey County M.D.
Apl. 2d. 1831

Sir

An appropriation was made by Congress at the last session of $5000 for graduateing, and otherwise improving the Presidents Square—to be expended under the direction of the President of the United States.

A little dead and yet alive looking Quaker man is employ'd by the Commissioner of public building to sward the lot north of the north gate to superintend and keep the time of his own carts and labourers. I am inform'd by the man who spreads the turf, that he has been 7 weeks doing what could have been done in less than one week with the same force look to it Sir, it is our money—and you must be responsible to us for the expenditure of it, if you are remiss in small things—you will be in great ones. Your friend and well wisher

J. W. Q. Harding

[Endorsed by AJ Jr.:] Mr. Harding of Geo. Town—on the Improvement of the Public grounds particularly the Squar before the Presdnts house—

[Endorsed by AJ:] refered to the commissioner of public buildings Mr. Elgar—A. J.

ALS, DLC (39). Harding may have misdated his letter, which was postmarked May 4. An Act of March 2 had appropriated $4,000 for "planting and improving the grounds about the President's house, including the gardener's salary." Previous annual appropriations more closely matching Harding's phrasing had included $5,000 "for levelling, graduating, and improving the President's square" in 1825 and $5,865 for "graduating and improving the grounds connected with the President's house" in 1826. Joseph Elgar (c1773–1854) was the commissioner of public buildings in Washington.

From Hardy Murfree Cryer

Rutherford County. Murfrees'borough.
April 3rd. 1831.

My honored friend,

Your letter in Ansr. to my last has been in hand some weeks, and but for the throng of business which I knew required all your time and attention, should have written you again before this.

Being closely engaged in my business at home, I sent my Son James to the Hermitage not long since requesting him to make enquiry concerning the family, Stock & farm—all of which he says was as it should be. Your mares in foal and the colts & fillies in good order. I particularly instructed

to Visit the lonely house in the garden, and examine its interior—whether all was kept *dry* and *neat*—all was right. There in Silent repose *slept* his Aunt Jackson!! He came away deeply impressed with the Solitude of the lonely house in the garden of the Hermitage but cheered with the prospect of that "House in which there are many mansions," where "the Sad Musick of human Woe" will no more be heard at all. But the ransomed of the Lord, that return & come to Zion with Songs and everlasting joy, shall dwell there.[1] May you and I my dear Genl. be numbered in that happy company!

You will have heard e'er this letter reaches you that your old friend Genl. Purdy is no more among the living—he died rather suddenly—I trust it will not prove an indiscretion in me just to call your attention to the Name of a man, and a patriotick Soldier, that would *cheerfully* accept the *office* which is vacated by Genl. Purdy. I mean your old & well tried friend & fellow Sufferer—Genl. William Martin, of Williamson County. It is deemed unnecessary to say a Word concerning the qualifications & sterling worth of Gel. Martin—you know him much better than I do. He is not a man of *Straw*, but a man of Steel. He can be relied on as a business man and a faithful helper, and friend in times of danger. Not like *Crocket* & *Desha*—not like Calhoun & divers others of lighter wing—that *chirp* and flutter in the Shady bowers of Summer groves—but on the approach of a Storm, or the coming of winter, *fly* away to mingle with birds of their own feather. Much for Such friends—they are not worth *6¼ pr. gross*.[2]

Burton is daily gaining ground with the freemen of the district Desha has launched forth, in a lengthy circular to his Constituents—in which he attemps to destroy Burton's prospects. Burton has replied to him, in which he has made the *Ex*-Congressman look very cheap. I intend sending you One of Mr. Desha's circulars (which is a *literary* curiosity to say the least of it) I will at the Same time send you Mr. Burton's reply. It is now believed that Hall will be left at home to attend to his farm.[3]

Your friends in this Country all believe, that Mr. Calhoun is degraded, & disgraced and that *Duff* Green has acted the part of well fed Milch cow—after giving a good pail of Milk—has kicked it all over—or *tried* to do so. Mrs Cryer's health is not so good as it was in the preceeding year, but nothing very alarming I hope. My children are all well, and little *Rachel* talks very pretty, and is indeed an interesting child. She turns over the leaves of a large Book and when she comes to *your portrait*, she points her litle fingers at it, and Says "*there is gan fader Jackson*"—poor little thing she does not know. She has heard her mother talk about you & she has caught the strain.

My prospects with the Horse *Arab* are good. I should have liked very much to have presented you with a Season of your *Oscar* mare to the young Sir *Charles*—he is One of the finest 5 years old, I ever saw—large, handsome & well bred—his prospects are very good. he stands near Murfres'borough, and if it is not too late, when this reaches you, let the

mare go to him. So says my friend Martin Clark at whose house the horse Stands—he being one of the owners.[4]

My respects to Majr. Lewis—Mr. Earle & your Son—and for your self I pray you to accept my best wishes for happiness beyond the grave.

H. M. Cryer

[Endorsed by AJ:] My friend Revd. Mr Cryer—answered 25th April 1831. to be filed with my private papers A. J.

ALS, DLC (39). AJ replied on April 25 (below). Cryer (1792–1846) was a Methodist minister and horse breeder in Sumner County, Tenn. His wife was Elizabeth L. Rice Cryer (1794–1833). Their children included James William Cryer (1818–1866) and Rachel Jackson Cryer (1829–1895).

1. John 14:2 and Isaiah 35:10. AJ had had a tomb constructed for Rachel in the Hermitage garden.

2. U.S. marshal Robert Purdy (1757–1831) had died in March. William Martin (1781–1843) had served under AJ in the War of 1812 and was a militia general and sometime state legislator.

3. Robert Minns Burton (1800–1843) was a Lebanon, Tenn., lawyer and Rachel Jackson's nephew by marriage. William Hall (1775–1856) had been a brigadier general of Tennessee volunteers in the War of 1812, a state legislator, and briefly governor after Samuel Houston's resignation in 1829. Burton and Hall were contenders for the congressional seat being vacated by Robert Desha, with Desha backing Hall.

4. The stallion Arab stood at Cryer's stable in 1831. Cryer had recently purchased the stallion Havoc, which was renamed Sir Charles Pinckney and stood at the stables of Methodist minister Martin Clark (1801–1859) near Murfreesboro.

To William Bernard Conway

Sir

your letter of the 31rst. ultimo has just reached me; & altho I never answer political letters, still the subject matter of yours requires ~~an answer~~ a passing comment.

The first intimation I have ~~had~~ recvd that the meeting in this city in February last "to promote the establishment of Sunday schools in the valley of the Missippi, was sectarean," ~~was~~ is from your letter now before me. I was ~~taught~~ induced to believe, that it was a plan for diseminating ~~of~~ the Gospel, by a *union* of *all christians*, in the valley of the Mississippi, where it was considered from the late settlement of the country the circulation of the bible the education of the poor ~~children~~ and an observence of the Sabath by children might be beneficial to their morales, ~~as well as giving education to the poor~~ & in the end prove essentially servicable to the indigent. These were my understanding of the objects of that meeting as the word *Union* ~~com~~imports. I am no *sectarian*; ~~al~~tho a lover of the christian religion; I do not believe, that any, who ~~are happy~~ shall be so fortunate as

to ~~ascend~~ be received to heaven, thro the atonement of our blessed Saviour will be asked whether they belonged to the Presbetarian, the Methodist, the Episcopalian Baptist or Roman catholic. All christians are brethern, and all true christians, know they are such, *because they love ~~the brethern~~ one another*—~~and a~~ A true christian, *loves all*, immaterial to what sect, or church, he may belong. The *Union* for promoting Sunday schools in the valley of the Missippi, I understood and believed to have nothing ~~of~~ Sectarian in its view, but was designed to aid in the Education of the poor & to ~~a~~meliorate the condition & improve the morals of the present & rising generation; as such it had my best wishes, and as such will ever have them. But should it appear ~~that others to establish any the object in view~~ that the object is, to give ascendency & preference to any sect or denomination, over others then, my constitutional ~~duties~~ notions will compel me to frown down such an attempt because in my opinion freedom & an establised religion are incompatible with each other &c &c—

Private

Sir

Enclosed is my answer to yr letter—of the 31rst. ultimo. You ask if you may publish it? I reply, use your own discretion. I do not like my name to appear in the new papers, on subjects semimingly political; but when necessary I have no objection—of this you may judge—A. J

ALS draft, DLC (39). A number of corrections and insertions are in John H. Eaton's hand.

To Martin Van Buren

april 4th. 1831—

Mr. Leib is a worthy young Gentleman, well recommendingd, and it would be gratifying to me, as well on his, as on account of Mr Ronaldson, if some suitable situation could be given him, as soon as it can be, with propriety. Let his letters & documents be filed in the Department of State

A. J.

ANS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-14). Philadelphia businessman and philanthropist James Ronaldson (1770–1841) had written AJ on February 9 and again on March 19 to recommend attorney James Ronaldson Leib (1806–1842) for consul in Tripoli or elsewhere in the Barbary states. Other recommenders included Nicholas Biddle, Mathew Carey, and William J. Duane. Leib himself wrote William B. Lewis on April 2 (DNA-RG 59, M639-14). Leib was the son of John L. Leib, rejected by the Senate in March for marshal of Michigan Territory, and the nephew of Michael Leib, late U.S. senator from Pennsylvania. AJ had already nominated Joseph Saul for consul at Tripoli on February 4, but in 1832 he appointed Leib consul at Tangier.

From Llewellyn Jones

Nottaway 4th. April 1831

My dear Sir

I had the honor to receive by the last mail your esteemed favour of the 28th Ult I have not been able to purchase to my satisfaction the two boys & negroe girls for your son in time to send out with the negroes I purchased for the estate of Genl. Chamberlayn Jones. The negroes of Irby's estate sold at enormous prices 36 sold for 10.114^{00}/_{100}$ and were mostly the inferior negroes belonging to the estate.[1] The sale was well attended by speculators, who were anxious to make out their droves for the South & were willing to give high prices. They have supplied themselves and are gone, in consequence of which negroes (as I expected) have fallen, and as I did not meet with suitable negroes for Majr. Donelson & your son in time to send out with the estate of Genl. Jones's negroes, I have concluded to purchase them one at a time at my leisure as favourable oppertunityies offers. When I purchase them I will send them by the steam boat to Washington unless a favourable oppertunity offers to send them direct to Nashville which frequently occurs

If your son contemplates visiting Tennessee this spring or summer, it will afford me great pleasure to see him at my house. And if I do not purchase his negroes before his arrival he can stay with me until we can procure such as will suit him. I shall in the mean time avail myself of every oppertunity to purchase them and Majr. Donelsons also

Mrs Jones values much your kind remembrance of her, and requests me to present her best respects to you and to say to you that she shall ever cherish a lively gratitude for your & your amiable ladys (now no more) politeness to her when a stranger & among strangers. In this I Join her.[2] Accept my dear Sir assurances of the esteem with which I am Yr friend mo. truly & faithfully

Lew Jones

N.B. Will you do me the favour to give the enclosed a proper direction L. J

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr Lew Jones to be answered—A. J. answd. 11th. of April 1831—A. J

ALS, DLC (39).

1. Llewellyn Jones was executor for the late Chamberlayne Jones (c1780–1829) of Amelia Co., Va., whose will had provided $10,000 to resettle his family on new lands in western Tennessee. Jones was also co-administrator of the estate of Nottoway planter Edmund Irby (d. 1829). On March 3 he had held a public auction of Irby's slaves at Nottoway Courthouse to pay the estate's debts.

2. Jones's wife was Prudence Ward Jones.

To Thomas Lilly Smith

April 5th. 1831—

The Register of the Treasury will furnish the President, with a synopsis of the appropriations for contingencies for the departments proper, for the years, 1829–30, & 31—with the application of the same. Specifying the amount ~~to~~ expended in each Bureau, of each Department, and if any, what contingent expence for the years 1829, & 30, remain unpaid, & the reason thereof—

[Endorsed by AJ:] copy to the Register of the Treasury 5th of April 1831—

AN draft, DLC (39). Extract, Swann Galleries sale 1667 (mAJs). Smith (1787–1871) of New York was appointed register of the Treasury in 1829.

To Robert Johnstone Chester

Washington April 6th 1831

My Dr. Sir,

This moment the within letter, with the within check for one hundred dollars was handed me this moment & I hasten to forward it by this evenings mail.

I have no time to say more; Colo. Stockly D. Hays commission as Register has been some days since signed & I suppose sent to him by the commissioner of the Genl Land office[1]

I would like to hear from some of you—with my best regard to all friends I am yrs

Andrew Jackson

ALS, THi (17-1069). Chester (1793–1892), the husband of Rachel Jackson's niece Elizabeth Hays, was postmaster at Jackson, Tenn. AJ enclosed an April 6 letter from assistant postmaster general Charles K. Gardner with a $100 check for him (THi, 17-1071). Chester had inquired after this money in an April 3 letter to AJ Donelson at Nashville (DLC-39).

1. Not being instructed otherwise, and not knowing Hays's whereabouts, the GLO on March 29 had sent his commission directly to the Mount Salus (Clinton), Miss., land office where he was to be register. In response to a query from AJ on April 25 why Hays had not received it, acting commissioner John M. Moore explained the circumstance and promised to send a duplicate of Hays's instructions to his Jackson, Tenn., residence.

To James Alexander Hamilton

*[In September 1829, Jackson had commissioned three men—merchant and U.S. consul at Odessa Charles Rhind (1779–1857), Navy captain James Biddle, and diplomat David Offley—to negotiate a commercial treaty with the Ottoman Porte. To minimize visibility and the risk of foreign meddling, Rhind was sent ahead to conduct negotiations alone. He concluded and signed a treaty at Constantinople on May 7, 1830. When Biddle and Offley arrived to add their names, they quarreled with Rhind over the treaty terms and the presents to be paid to Turkish officials. Rhind took their objections as a personal insult and an effort to sabotage the treaty, and he complained bitterly to Jackson and Van Buren (*Jackson Papers, *8:204–5, 354–55, 388–90).*

*Before Rhind sailed from Turkey in September 1830, Sultan Mahmud II presented him with four Arabian horses, which Rhind arranged to ship home. The U.S. constitution prohibits government officers from accepting gifts from foreign powers without congressional consent. Rhind reached the U.S. in November, and on December 10 he wrote Jackson to explain his acceptance of the horses. He said that the Sultan had presented them on learning of Rhind's interest in purchasing horses on his own account; they were a private rather than an official gift, and to refuse them would give offense. The horses were now in New York, held by the merchant firm that had paid for the shipping, and Rhind offered to relinquish his claim on them to the U.S. (*Jackson Papers, *8:684–86). Jackson submitted Rhind's letter to Congress on February 22, 1831, and on March 1 the House Committee on Foreign Affairs reported that the horses rightfully belonged to the government and should be sold on its behalf (*HRRep *107, 21st Cong., 2d sess., Serial 210).*

The treaty with Turkey was ratified on February 2, 1831. Rhind was to carry the ratification to Constantinople for its official exchange. While there, he was also to help install former Navy captain David Porter (1780–1843), presently U.S. consul general at Algiers, who had just been appointed the first U.S. chargé d'affaires to Turkey. On March 30, Van Buren wrote Rhind in New York urging a speedy conclusion to the affair of the horses so that Rhind could come to Washington, receive the treaty and Porter's credentials, and set sail (DNA-RG 59, M78-3). Rhind replied on April 2 that the government had "no claim whatever on the horses," and that if Congress wanted them it should have provided for a return present to the sultan and treated himself with more justice and generosity. Rhind also declared the "imperious necessity" of Jackson reprobating the "insults and abuse" that Biddle and Offley had offered to him and the Turkish government while in Constantinople. Lacking this, he could return to the Porte only "as an insulted and degraded representative" and would be without influence. He also said he would require additional funds (Hamilton Reminiscences, *pp. 202–3).]*

Washington April 6th. 1831—

Dear Sir

Mr Van Buren has shewn me a letter from Mr Rhind which gives me much pain. I respect & esteem him, & should be sorry to find that he could be induced by the injustice which he thinks has been done to him, to take ground now which would not only embarrass the service, in the final success of which, his fame is so deeply interested, but seem also to give countenance to the imputations, & acts, of which he complains. It is my wish therefore, that you should see him & have a frank & informal conversation with him on this subject matter, & I cannot but hope that he will upon further reflection be induced to abandon the ground he has taken in the letter refered to. When he left here we understood that the only question was whether they horses would be sold before or after he left the country, & in consequence of his thinking it best to defer it to the latter period, that course was concluded upon, & the matter would not have been farther acted upon now, but for the opinion expressed, that Mr Rhind had changed his views in that regard. By the inclosed letter of Mr. Rhinds which was communicated to Congress you will see the attitude in which he would be placed, if he were now to raise an objection to the sale, and how insufficient would be the ground derived from the expectation which he says he indulged, but which were not then made a condition.[1]

The subject of the unfortunate dificulties between Mr Rhind and the other commissioners, was not alluded to by Mr Van Buren in his letter, but it was to the ratification of the Treaty he refered.[2] I have explained myself frequently to Mr Rhind upon this subject, & informed him, that at least, until the Treaty is finaly disposed of, I would not think it proper to take any steps in that respect, & in the propriety of that course, I thought Mr Rhind concurred. Mr. Rhind knows the amount of funds which have been appropriated, & that I have no power to add to them. Our wish is, that Mr Rhind should take all the papers for Commodore Porter at as early a period as possible with authority, if any accident or other cause should prevent Commodore Porter from accepting the office & discharging the duty of effecting an exchange of their ratification, that then, that duty should be discharged by Mr Rhind himself. It is all important that we should know definitively what we may depend upon in that respect, as the time is running away. If Mr Rhind, with a knowledge of all the circumstances is either unwilling or feels himself incapable of doing what we desire & expect from him, I hope he will let us know definitively, so that we may immediately dispatch a special messenger to Commodore Porter. The necessity of adopting this latter course, would cause me much regret, as I am anxious that he should have the credit of assisting in concluding the business. But we must run no risk that can be avoided. If even the true state of Mr Rhinds health is such as to render it uncertain whether he can go on, I should prefer to send a special messenger immediately, & take

the chance of Mr Rhinds coming on in season to afford his country the benefit of his assistance[3]

I prefer to send you this private & unofficial letter, to be seen by Mr Rhind only, instead of a formal & official correspondence. I consider Mr Rhinds future course in this business as a matter of public, as well as private, importance, & I want you to see & converse fully, freely, & friendly with him. He knows our disposition towards him, and I cannot but flatter myself that however much he may feel aggrieved by the acts of others, he will not on that account omit to do any thing in his power by which the public interest will be promoted—he is I am sure too public spirited for that. Mr Rhind will shew you his letter to the seretary of State, which will enable you to understand this letter—make my best respects to Mr Rhind & let me hear from you as soon as possible, as I feel much anxiety upon this subject.[4]

Please tender to your amiable Lady & family my kind salutations & believe me yr friend[5]

Andrew Jackson

ALS, NN (17-1073). Draft in Van Buren's hand, DLC (39). Hamilton *Reminiscences*, pp. 203–4. AJ's text followed Van Buren's almost exactly. Van Buren sent this letter to Hamilton with one of his own, deeply deploring Rhind's course and hoping that Hamilton could persuade him to withdraw his indecorous April 2 letter (Hamilton *Reminiscences*, pp. 205–6).

1. This was Rhind's December 10, 1830, letter to AJ, sent by AJ to Congress on February 22, 1831.

2. Van Buren's March 30 letter to Rhind said that AJ was anxious to close the affair of the horses "as soon as that can with propriety and safety to other interests be done" (DNA-RG 59, M78-3). Rhind had taken "other interests" to mean his problems with Biddle and Offley.

3. Rhind's April 2 letter to Van Buren said he had recently been unwell.

4. Hamilton received AJ's letter on April 9, met with Rhind, and wrote AJ the same day. He found Rhind "obstinately bent" on claiming the horses and selling them on his own account, being "(either from passion or avarice) wholly insensible" to the indelicacy of thus provoking a public confrontation with the government. However, Rhind agreed to withdraw his April 2 letter to Van Buren and his demand that AJ rebuke Biddle and Offley before the exchange of treaty ratifications. Following on a suggestion from Van Buren, and as a precaution in case Rhind's conduct precluded his executing his office, Hamilton proposed sending William B. Hodgson out ahead with the treaty to meet Porter (Hamilton *Reminiscences*, pp. 204–5). AJ replied to Hamilton on April 12 (below).

5. Hamilton's wife was Mary Morris Hamilton (1790–1869).

From John Randolph

London April 6. 1831.

My dear Sir,

In your letter of the 3d. of December last, you most kindly invited me "to speak my feelings and wishes in regard to the future without reserve & to count with confidence on the steadiness of your friendship for me." At the time when I received that letter I had sanguine hopes of being

able to return to Russia in the Spring, & accordingly wrote to you to that effect. But, subsequently, my health has been so entirely undermined that I despair of my ability to do so. I cannot express to you the anxiety & distress which I have endured from reflecting on this circumstance. It amounts, at times, to intense misery. As you were so good as to put my return to St. Petersburgh upon the contingencies "that my health would admit of it, and that I should have reason to believe that I would be able to accomplish the whole, or part of what was desired" I feel some consolation; for I see not the most distant prospect of success (at present) in either object.

I must therefore, my dear Sir, avail myself of your indulgent invitation "to let you know my wishes freely" and to request that "the necessary directions may be sent to me without delay." I regret most deeply that I have delayed this communication so long. I have been cheated by the delusions of Hope. I have now none left but that I may be permitted to lay my bones in my native land.

Let me beg your excuse if there be any thing improper in the above, for it is written in great bodily pain, but much more of the mind: & believe me Dear Sir, with the truest respect & regard your faithful Servant & friend

John Randolph of Roanoke

ALS, DLC (39). Randolph's quotations were all paraphrased from AJ's letter to him of December 3, 1830 (*Jackson Papers*, 8:647–48). AJ replied on May 26 (below).

To Thomas Hill Williams

[The first part of this text comes from a full copy made by Andrew Jackson Jr. that Jackson signed and retained, and the remainder from the surviving final pages of the sent version, which Jackson both wrote and signed.]

(Copy)

Washington city April th 1831.

Dr. Sir,

The inclosed copy of a letter from the Honble J C Mitchell, formerly a member of Congress and now one of the Circuit Judges of the State of Tennessee, has just been recieved. A duty which I owe to myself and to the good citizens of Mississippi induces me to Lay it before you with such explanations as may enable my constituents of that State, who are also Mr Poindexters to judge of his conduct and mine.[1]

Before the resignation of Mr. Dunbar came to hand, I recieved recommendations of the strongest kind in favor of Col. Stockly D Hays for the office of Surveyor General, pressing his claims on the score of his military

services in the last war, the services of his father and wife's father in the revolution, his wants, & his fitness for office. He was well educated, was a lawyer by profession, was a good mathematician and had studied surveying. Some years ago he was dissapated; but those habits he had long since entirely abandoned, and for a long time had not used intoxicating liquors of any description. His claims were urged by the most respectable men in West Tennessee including the Governor and Judges of the Supreme Court.[2] It is true that he was the nephew of my dear, departed wife; and as I had not appointed a single family connection to office, it seems to me a true friend, if he could not have found an extenuation in that circumstance for an act which his duty compelled him to disapprove, could not have had the heart to find in it a cause of censure.

On Mr. Dunbar's resignation he recommended another gentleman in whose favor Judge Ellis united. at my request Judge Grundy conversed with Judge Ellis, Mr. Poindexter and Genl Hinds, all of whom called upon me. I explained to them the claims and recommendations of Col. Hays, and informed them that I did not see how I could avoid giving him the appointment, Mr Poindexter observed, that the Legislature had recommended a man for the office on whom he could not unite in recommending, and named another who had removed from Tennessee, of whom I had never before heard as a Surveyor. Judge Ellis continued to press the gentleman recommended by Mr. Dunbar who had been a Surveyor under Majr. Truman. In addition to these, other Gentlemen were pressed & presented from Louisiana.[3]

In closing the consultation, Judge Ellis remarked that he did not think the appointment of Col. Hays would be a popular one—but if under existing circumstances, I thought proper to nominate him, he would vote for him; Mr Poindexter, as understood by myself and Judge Grundy, assented in a similar manner to the nomination of Col. Hays. He was nominated. I was surprised soon after to receive a note of disapprobation from Mr. Poindexter which I answered.[4] After making in vain a movement which was understood as an attempt to force a withdrawal of the nomination, Mr Poindexter proposed that it should be withdrawn with the view that Mr. Fitz Register of the Land office at ____ should be nominated as Surveyor General and Col. Hays for Register in his place. Willing to accomodate the members from Mississippi, in Congress, as far as practicable, I consented to that course, provided both Senators and the Representative would address to me notes requesting it to be done. Mr. Poindexter and Genl Hinds wrote me to that effect; but Judge Ellis persisted in his original recommendation.[5] The arrangement was made, and it is understood, that Mr. Poindexter ultimately *voted for the confirmation* of *col Hays*. How can Mr. Poindexter excuse himself to his constituents for voting for "a confirmed and habitual sot, every way unqualified for the duties of the station"? This he has done, or he has misrepresented the character and qualifications of Col. Hays.

The fact stated by me will, in the main, be confirmed by Judge Ellis, who acted on this occasion, as he has done on all others, the part of an independent, consistent & honorable man. Of the three individuals whom Mr. Poindexter represents as disposing of all appointments, I may with truth say, that there are no three officially so near to me who interfere less in appointments. None of them interfered with the nomination of Col. Hays; two of them afterwards interfered at the particular request of others, by attempting to induce me to withdraw it; and the [6]third knew nothing about it. This language of Mr. Poindexter looks so much like what has recently come from another quarter, that there can be no mistake of the spirit and design in which it originates, or of the intrigue ~~in~~ & management though which it ~~originates~~ is every where repeated.

My fellow citizens of Mississippi will judge for themselves how far I have made it the duty of Mr. Poindexter to abandon me by abandoning their interests. I thought I was promoting the vital interests of Mississippi by inducing the Choctaws and Chikesaws to remove beyond the Mississippi river; and I still think that my fellow citizens of your state, will consider the clearing of two thirds of their territory of its Indian population, more important to their interests than that, a favorite of Mr. Poindexters shall be appointed to office.

I have written this that you may make its contents known to the members of the Legislature, and such others as you may think proper. I like the open day. The intrigues carried on here, and the calumnies circulated far & wide in private letters, aught to be brought to light. The people would then know who are true to them, and who are not; they would see who are attempting to manage the Government honestly with a single regard to their interests, and who they are, that avail themselves of seats in congress and other public offices to control every thing with a view to the personal advantage of themselves, and their friends.

I will be happy in being informed whether this reaches you. With sentiments of high regard & respect, I am sir yr mo. obdt. servt.

Andrew Jackson

LS copy in AJ Jr.'s hand, DLC (39); ALS fragment, THi (17-1079). Williams (1780–1840) had been a U.S. senator from Mississippi from 1817 to 1829.

1. James Coffield Mitchell (1786–1843) had been a Tennessee congressman from 1825 to 1829.

2. Joseph Dunbar (d. 1846), appointed surveyor of public lands south of Tennessee in 1829, had resigned effective January 1, 1831. Tennessee governor William Carroll (1788–1844) and other high officials wrote AJ recommending Hays on November 27, 1830 (*Jackson Papers*, 8:637–38). Hays's father, Robert Hays (1758–1819), and his father-in-law, Thomas Butler (1754–1805), had both fought in the Revolution. Hays himself had served as quartermaster of Tennessee troops under AJ in the War of 1812.

3. This meeting was on December 19, 1830, the day before AJ nominated Hays (*Jackson Papers*, 8:701–2). Powhatan Ellis (1790–1863) was Mississippi's other U.S. senator.

4. Poindexter wrote AJ on December 20, 1830, objecting that Hays was not a resident of Mississippi. AJ replied the same day that the surveyor's office embraced both Louisiana

and Mississippi and that confining appointments to in-state residents, while generally good policy, could not be claimed "as a matter of right strictly speaking," since "all such offices are created for the public good" (*Jackson Papers*, 8:702–3).

5. Poindexter and Hinds wrote AJ on February 15 (above).

6. The text from here to the end is from the ALS fragment.

From John Henry Eaton

Washington City 7. April 1831

Dear Sir

On Sunday last I communicated to you my desire to relinquish the duties of the War Department, & I now take occasion to repeat the request which was then made. I am not disposed by any sudden withdrawal to interrupt or retard the business of the office. A short time will be sufficient, I hope, to enable you to direct your attention towards some person, in whose capacity, industry, and friendly disposition you may have confidence, to assist in the complicated and laborious duties of your administration. Two or three weeks, perhaps less, may be sufficient for this purpose—

In coming to this conclusion candor demands of me to say, that it arises from no dissatisfaction entertained towards you, from no misunderstanding between us, on any subject, nor from any diminution, on my part, of that confidence which has ever been reposed in you.

I entered your Cabinet, as is well known to you, contrary to my own wishes; &, having nothing ~~personal~~ to desire either as it regards myself or friends, have ever since cherished a determination to avail myself of the first favorable moment, after your administration should be in successful operation, to retire. It occurs to me, that the time is now at hand, when I may do so, with propriety, & in proper respect to you. Looking to the present state of things, to the course of your administration, which, being fairly developed, is before the people for their approval or condemnation, I cannot consider the step I am taking objectionable; or that it is one, the tendency of which can be to affect or injure a course of policy, by you already advantagiously commenced, & which I hope will be carried out to the benefit and advancement of the ~~country~~ people.

Tendering my sincere wishes for your prosperity & happiness; & for your successful efforts in the cause of your Country I am very truly Your friend

J. H Eaton

[Endorsed by AJ:] Major Eatons resignation as Secretary of War 7 april 1831—A. J.

ALS, DLC (39). *Nat. Intelligencer*, April 21, 1831; *Niles*, April 23.

To John Henry Eaton

Washington City
April 8th. 1831—

Dear Sir

Your letter of yesterday was received, and I have carefully considered it. When you conversed with me the other day, on the subject of your withdrawing from the Cabinet, I expressed to you a sincere desire that you would well consider of it; for however reluctant I am to be deprived of your services, I cannot consent to retain you contrary to your wishes, & inclination to remain, particularly as I well know that in 1829 when I invited you to become a member of my Cabinet you objected, and expressed a ~~great~~ desire to be excused, and only gave up your objections, ~~on~~ at my pressing solicitations.

An acquaintance with you of twenty years standing assured me, that in your honesty, prudence, capacity, discretion and judgment, I could safely rely and confide. I have not been disappointed. With the performance of your duties since you have been with me, I have been fully satisfied, and go where you will, be your destiny what it may, my best wishes will always attend you.

I will avail myself of the earliest opportunity to obtain some qualified friend, to succeed you; and until then, I must solicit that the acceptance of your resignation be defered[.] I am very sincerely and respectfully your friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, MB (17-1086). ALS draft, DLC (39). *Nat. Intelligencer*, April 21, 1831; *Niles*, April 23.

From Samuel Delucenna Ingham

8 Apr 1831

My dear Sir

By request of Gen Smith I have the honor to make known his application to yourself and to state that he served seven years in the Revolutionary army leaving the service at the end of the war as a Capt. He was in a Brigade commanded by Lafayette and upon the Departure of that patriotic man he left with Capt. Smith some marked testimonials of his confidence, he is now upward of 75 and quite infirm: his last son is the one whom he wishes to have placed in the military academy[.] With great respect your &c

S D Ingham

[Endorsed by AJ:] If there is a vacancy in the M. academy, it will be grateful to me that A. J Smith son of the revolutionary officer within named be granted a cadets warrant A. J.

ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M688-82). Samuel Smith (1749–1835) joined the Pennsylvania infantry as a lieutenant in 1776 and served to the end of the war. He commanded a militia brigade in the War of 1812. His son Andrew Jackson Smith (1815–1897) was admitted to West Point in 1834 after repeated applications, graduated in 1838, and remained in the Army, rising to a corps command as major general of volunteers in the Civil War.

From Chesed P. Montgomery

Green Hill Campbell Co. Virginia April 8th 1831

Dear Genl.,

I addressed you communication on the 15th of December last & to my great mortification I received no answer. I have concluded to write to you again for the last time & as it is of importance to you & will afford me inexpressible gratification the remainder of my life I hope you will not neglect to answer it. If you do not answer this communication I shall conclude that you have no esteem for me & that all your former attachment for me is entirely demolished which I shall always sincerely regret.

In the testimonial you gave me as a Tutor & which Andrew copyed there is one word incorrectly spelled which I hope you will correct & forward me a new copy in your own handwriting. A great many people conclude as your signature is only annexed to the testimonial that you cannot write & also spell badly I wish to destroy this impression as much as possible. I know that you spell some words incorrectly when you write in great haste & so do some of the best scholars in the United States but this idea is impressed on the minds of a great many people by your enemies. I calculate on taking a southern tour this summer or fall & my intercourse with mankind will be very extensive. The testimonial that you have given me introduces me into the most conspicuous families ever where I go, you can write it much better than the one I have & it would be much more acceptable & have a tendency to increase your popularity, for most every person that I become acquainted with manifest a great desire to see your handwriting. The following is a true copy of the testimonial you have given me with your signature annexed the word bearer is incorrectly spelled.

"City of Washington

The bearrer Mr. C. P. Montgomery, I have known for several years, he has always sustained as far as I have heard, a good moral character; He is the son of Col. Hugh Montgomery, of Tennessee, and brother of Major Lemuel P. Montgomery, who fell at the battle of the Horse Shoe, in the creek war. He wishes employ as a Teacher of the English language, in

which he has been engaged for some time. He has certificates of his qualifications, from respectable and learned gentlemen. Given under my hand and seal this 12th day of March 1829.

Andrew Jackson"

I hope you will not neglect to comply with my request as it is the only one I shall ever make. The testimonial I wish to keep as a memorial to your memory as long as I shall live & then I will give it to my posterity. I received a letter from Judge white from which I should like to take some extracts but I have not room. I hope we will meet in Heaven is my sincere prayer.

C. P. Montgomery

ALS, DLC (39). Montgomery was the son of Hugh Montgomery (d. 1833), a companion of AJ's in Salisbury, N.C., in 1786–87, and the brother of Lemuel Purnell Montgomery (1786–1814), who served with AJ against the Creeks and died at Horseshoe Bend. He was also a first cousin of Emily T. Donelson, whose mother was his mother's sister. In 1829 he had addressed a series of requests, appeals, remonstrances, and threats to AJ and to AJ Donelson (*Jackson Papers*, 7:376–86, 401–2, 417, 435–36).

To John Boyle

The President with his respects to the Secretary of the Navy, would draw his attention to the within, & suggest the propriety to be made in the admonition to Comdr. Creighton. The phraseology would admit of a construction which would make the alteration sugested proper

A. J.

P.S. if made send it to the commodore at Mr Barnards—[1]

I would suggest the following alteration to be made in the admonish~~sh~~tion to be given under the sentence of the Court To Commodore Craighton— after the words Earnestly admonished, (in third page) by every consideration which you and all ~~other~~ men ~~of your high station~~ must hold dear & estimable ~~amonghst men of honor, & sacred to the character of the officer & Gentleman,~~ to be more careful & circumspect for the future in attention to your official accounts; and sedulously to avoid the repetition of the irregularities of which &c &c &c—

ANS, DNA-RG 125 (M273-26). Navy captain John Orde Creighton (c1785–1838) had commanded the Brazilian squadron. He was ordered home in June 1829, put under arrest in February 1830, and court-martialed in Philadelphia in January 1831 on charges of conduct unbecoming an officer, tyranny and oppression toward subordinates, neglect of duty, and drawing double pay. On February 17 the court acquitted him on all charges except claiming salary twice for one month, which it deemed an unintentional error. It sentenced him "to be admonished by the Secretary of the Navy to be more circumspect in his accounts for the future" and rebuked the junior officers who had brought the charges. On April 9 Boyle

communicated AJ's approval of the sentence to Creighton. His original phrasing was "you are hereby, in pursuance of the said sentence, earnestly admonished, by every consideration estimable among men of honour, and sacred in the character of the Officer and Gentleman, to be more circumspect for the future in attention to your official accounts; and sedulously to avoid the repetition of the irregularities of which a most respectable Court, composed of your brother officers, high in rank, has, after a full, patient, and impartial investigation, found itself unable entirely to acquit you" (DNA-RG 125, M273-26). The version sent to Creighton was amended to follow AJ's text (DNA-RG 45, M149-19). Creighton was released from arrest and restored to duty.

1. Frederick Barnard (d. 1838) operated the Mansion Hotel on Pennsylvania Avenue.

To Hugh Lawson White

strictly confidential

Washington April 9th. 1831—

My Dr Sir

When first elected President of the United States my first concern was to select a cabinet of honest talented men, & good republicans, amonghst whom, I might have one, from personal acquaintance, I could with safety confide. You and Major Eaton were ~~they~~ only men with whom I had such acquaintance and intimacy that insured me my entire confidence were well placed, (& who could be thought of to fill such a place) one of whom I thought it necessary for the success of my administration, should be in my Cabinet. Both of you had taken a prominant share in my election, which drew me from my chosen retirement, I therefore thought I had claims upon you to aid me in the administration of the Government. With those feelings, on the close of the election in 1828, I addressed you, asking you to come into my Cabinet, and requesting if any thing of an imperious nature should deprive me of your services, make your determination known to Major Eaton, as I calculated that one or the other of you would.

When I reached Washington, for reasons which you assigned as imperious, you declined, and it was with great reluctance and much dificulty, and ~~great~~ persuasion, Major Eaton consented. He has made known to me his intention to withdraw, & has tendered his resignation. It is with the greatest reluctance I part with him, but *his decision is final*. You know the confidence I have in him, but knowing how much he has unjustly suffered I cannot longer detain him contrary to his wishes and to his happiness. He has been cruelly persecuted, and from a combination of sources, that until lately, some of them, I did not suspect.

I have in my reply to Major Eatons letter of resignation, closed mine thus, "I will avail myself of the earliest opportunity to obtain some qualified friend to succeed you, and until then, I must solicit that the acceptance of your resignation may be defered." I have therefore a right to claim your aid as my faithful friend, Eaton has determined to retire. The reasons that

influenced your determination in 1829, does not now exist—it is true, you have drank the cup of bitterness to the dregs, your bereavements have been great. With me you can live (I have a large room for you) who can sympathise for your sufferings, and you can keep your little son and daughter with you & attend to his education, and the duties of your office will give employ to your mind.[1] This must be employed to preserve life—and in this employment you will not only render important services to your country, but an act of great friendship to me. I cannot hesitate to believe, but that you will yield your consent, I shall await your answer with much anxiety.

I pray you to look about and you will see the great difficulty, not to say impractibility, of supplying your place in case of refusal, & I therefore feel the more justified in adding the claims of private friendship, to considerations of public character

You must not my dear friend refuse my request. If at any time you should find the duties of the office too much for your health or other opportunity should offer to place you in a situation more congeneal with your past pursuits, we will have time & opportunity to prepare for the gratification of your wishes, which shall continue as they have heretofore been the rule of my conduct in whatever relates to yourself always, satisfied that they will be none other than such as are reasonable.

Mr Van Buren has also intimated to me his intention to withdraw, of course, a reorganisation of my Cabinet (proper) will be made

The Postmaster general will only remain. When Eaton and Van Buren goes, justice to them, and to myself, and that electioneering scenes in Congress may cease, or the intrigues exposed—will induce me to reorganise my Cabinet. This I regret, but have a long time forsaw; admonished, but could not controle; my Cabinet must be a unit. I sincerely regret to loose Eaton & Van Buren two more independent republicans does not exist, who have laboured with me, with an eye single to the prosperity of the union—still Mr Van Buren, was singled out as a plotter. The cry of plot, plot in Mr Calhouns *Book* brought me in mind of the old story—rogue, cries rogue rogue *first*, to draw the attention from himself, that he might escape I say to you frankly, that Van Buren is one of the most frank men I ever knew, with talents combined with common sense, not rarely to be met with—*a true man* with no guile. With my kind salutations to you & your little family & your connections believe me your friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS draft, DLC (39). White replied on April 20 (below).

1. White had lost seven children since 1826, including three in 1828 and another in January 1829, when AJ was shaping his Cabinet. His wife had just died on March 25. White's young daughter and son were Isabella Harvey White (1820–1872) and Samuel Davis (or Davies) Carrick White (1825–1860).

From William Donelson

Aprile 10th 1831

Dear General

It may somewhat supprise you after so long silence, that I should address you on such a subject, as the appointment to office, not for myself, but a desire to serve my friend John Wright, one that has been alwas your friend and suporter, has induced me to address you this note, if honesty and integrity be any recommendations to office he has them in as high a degree as any other man that has applied for the appointment of Marshal of this district, has not the qualification of some of the candidates, that I understand has been strenuously urged, I mean *poverty*, having been a prudent and cautious man in all his dealings, with the assistance of an honest name—he has accquired a competancy he is more embarrassed at this time than he has been for many years, having discontinued his mercantile establishment in Nashville, the difficu*[. . .]*icting, has rendered it almost imposible to meet the payments for his plantation; for this reason the appointment would be very desireable—

We have gloomy prospects before us here, crops unsold and corne cribs empty, and the winter not yet departed, for day before yesterday we had blasts of snow from the north west all day, that night a hard frost which destroyed a field of cotton for you that was up, and to day the cold N W. winds gives clear indicatins that we will have more frost, the winter has been disstressing indeed, but we will look forward and weather the storm as well as we can—

All friends and relations are well. Andrew and Emily and those that will return with than, will start in a week or two from here[.] Accept of my warmest regards and beleve me Yours Sincerely

William Donelson

ALS, THi (17-1112). Two days earlier, on April 8, AJ had appointed Samuel B. Marshall to succeed Robert Purdy as marshal for the western district of Tennessee.

From Cornelius Bogert

New York 1831. april 13th.[1]

Sir

The important disclosures which Gibbs, the Pirate has already made, must have come to your knowledge through the public prints, and before these can reach the extremities of our republic his existence will be closed. as the scenes of his profligacy have spread horror in the breasts of many, I respectfully suggest whether a reprieve of Six months will not be attended with important advantages. The solitude to which he will be doomed, may elicit confessions of great importance—many of his companions may now

be roaming our waters whose names are still kept secret, and which may be drawn from him. I respectfully lay these suggestions before you and remain respectfully yr obedt Servt

Cornelius Bogert

[Endorsed by AJ Jr.:] New York April 11th. Mr. Bogert intimates that the Pardon of Gibbs the notorious Pirate for a few months would be of benefit —as he would perhaps make more disclosures that will enable them to detect others.

ALS, DLC (39). Bogert (1775–1856) was a New York City attorney. The pirate Charles Gibbs, born James D. Jeffers (1798–1831), had been tried in federal court in New York for mutiny and murder aboard the brig *Vineyard* in November 1830. He was convicted on March 8 and sentenced to be hanged. While awaiting execution, Gibbs made sensational, and at least in part suspect, confessions to a long career of piracy and murder, which were widely reported in the press. He was not reprieved, and was executed as scheduled on April 22.

On May 4, Navy secretary Branch submitted to AJ an April 30 report from New York federal marshal Thomas Morris, who had interviewed Gibbs before his execution. Morris sent a sketch of a tattoo on Gibbs's arm, which Gibbs had told him was the identifying mark of a pirate, and said Gibbs had told him that Cuban authorities and merchants were in active collaboration with pirates (DNA-RG 45, M124-127). That same day, AJ wrote James A. Hamilton, who had prosecuted Gibbs, asking that he interview Rhode Island merchant James Coggeshall about revelations Coggeshall claimed that Gibbs had made to him. Hamilton reported to AJ on May 23 that Coggeshall was a credible witness and that Gibbs's disclosures to him about connections between American merchant houses and pirates merited further inquiry.

1. Bogert's letter was postmarked April 11.

From Martin Van Buren

Washington April 11th. 1831

Dear Sir,

I feel it to be my duty to retire from the office to which your confidence and partiality called me. The delicacy of this step, under the circumstances in which it is taken, will, I trust, be deemed an ample apology for stating more at large than might otherwise have been necessary, the reasons by which I am influenced.

From the moment of taking my seat in your Cabinet, it has been my anxious wish and zealous endeavour, to prevent a premature agitation of the question of your successor; and at all events to discountenance, and if prossible, repress the disposition at an early day manifested, to connect my name with that disturbing topic. Of the sincerity and the constancy of this disposition, no one has had a better opportunity to judge than yourself. It has however been unavailing. Circumstances not of my creation, and altogether beyond my controul, have given to this subject a turn which cannot now be remedied, except by a self-disfranchisement, which

if even dictated by my individual wishes, could hardly be reconcileable with propriety or self-respect.

Concerning the injurious effects which the circumstance of a member of the Cabinet's ~~holdin~~ occupying the relation towards the Country to which I have adverted, is calculated to have upon the conduct of public affairs, there cannot, I think, at this time, be room for two opinions. Diversities of ulterior preference among the friends of an Administration are unavoidable; and even if the respective advocates of those, thus placed in rivalship, be patriotic enough to resist the temtation of creating obstacles to the advancement of him to whose elevation they are opposed, by embarrassing the branch of public service committed to his charge, they are nevertheless from their position, exposed to the suspicion of entertaining and encouraging such views: a suspicion which can seldom fail in the end, to aggravate into present alienation and hosility, the prospective differences which first gave rise to it. Thus, under the least unfavorable consequences, individual injustice is suffered, and the Administration embarrassed and weakened. Whatever may have been the course of things, under the peculiar circumstances of the earlier stage of the Rebublic, my experience has fully satisfied me, that, at this day, when the field of selection has become so extended, the circumstance referred to, by augmenting the motives and sources of opposition to the measures of the Executive, must unavoidably prove the cause of injury to the public service, for a counterpoise to which we may in vain look to the peculiar qualifications of any Individual; and even if I should in this be mistaken, still I cannot so far deceive myself, as to believe for a moment, that I am included in the exceptions. These obstructions to the successful prosecution of public affairs, when superadded to that opposition which is inseparable from our free institutions, and which every administration must expect, present a mass, to which the operations of the Government should at no time be voluntarily exposed; and the more especially should it be avoided, at so eventful a period in the affairs of the World, when our Country may need the utmost harmony in ~~all~~ her Councils.

Such being my impressions, the path of duty is plain: and I not only submit with cheerfulness to whatever personal sacrifices may be involved in the surrender of the station I occupy; but I make it my ambition to set an example which, should it in the progress of the Government, be deemed, notwithstanding the humility of its origen, worthy of respect and observance, cannot, I think, fail to prove essentially and permanently beneficial.

Allow me, Sir, to present one more view of the subject. You have consented to stand before your constituents for re-election. Of their decision, resting as it does upon the unbought suffrages of a free, numerous and widely extended people, it becomes no man to speak with certainty. Judging, however, from the past, and making a reasonable allowance for the fair exercise of the intelligence and public spirit of your Fellow Citizens, I cannot hesitate in adopting the belief that the confidence, as

well in your capacity for civil duties as in your civic virtues, already so spontaneously and strikinly displayed, will be manifested with increased energy, now, that all candid observers must admit their utmost expectations to have been more than realized.

If this promise, so auspicious to the best interests of our common Country be fulfilled, the concluding term of your Administration will, in the absence of any prominent cause of discord among its supporters, afford a most favorable opportunity for the full accomplishment of those ~~measures of reform, retrenchment and improvement~~ important public objects in the prosecution of which I have witnessed on your part such steady vigilance and untiring devotion. To the unfavorable influence which my continuance in your Cabinet, under existing circumstances, may exercise upon this flattering prospect, I cannot Sir, without a total disregard of the lights of experience, and without shutting my eyes to the obvious tendency of things for the future, be insensible. Having, moreover, from a deep ~~sense~~ conviction of its importance to the Country, been among the most urgent of your advisers to yield yourself to the obvious wishes of the people, and knowing the sacrifice of personal feeling which was involved in your acquiescence, I cannot reconcile it to myself to be in any degree the cause of embarrassment to you during a period which, as it certainly will be of deep interest to your Country, is moreover destined to bring to its close your patriotic, toilsome and eventful public life.

From these considerations, I feel it to be doubly my duty to resign a post, the retention of which is so calculated to attract assaults upon your Administration, to which there might otherwise be no inducement: assaults of which, whatever be their aim, the most important as well as most injurious effect, is upon those public interests, which deserve and should command the support of all good Citizens. This duty, I should have discharged at an earlier period, but for considerations, partly of a public partly of a personal nature, connected with circumstances, which were calculated to expose its performance then to mis-construction and misrepresentation.

Having thus explained the motives which govern me in thus severing, and with seeming abruptness, the official ties by which we have been associated, there remains but one duty for me to perform. It is to make my profound and sincere acknowledgements for that steady support and cheering confidence which, in the discharge of my public duties, I have, under all circumstances, received at your hands; as well as for the personal kindness at all times extended to me.

Rest assured, Sir, that the success of your Administration, and the happiness of your private life, will ever constitute objects of the deepest solicitude with your sincere friend and obedient servant.

M. Van Buren

P.S. I will continue in office of course until my successor is appointed

LS, DLC (39). ALS draft and Draft, DLC-Van Buren Papers (17-1126). Washington *Globe*, April 20, 1831; *Niles*, April 23.

To James Alexander Hamilton

WASHINGTON, April 12, 1831.

MY DEAR SIR:

The *John Adams* will sail in a few days from Norfolk for the Mediterranean, and I have determined to guard against accidents by sending Mr. Hodgson with the papers to Commodore Porter with instructions to the Commander to take the Commodore to Constantinople. If Mr. Rhind gets off by the time he contemplates, he will probably reach there as soon as the *John Adams* which may be detained here a week and possibly two, although I hope not. In my view of the matter, this is, I think, the best arrangement that can be made.[1]

I am greatly mortified that any difficulty is made about the horses. I have directed an authority to the Marshal to sell the interest of the United States in them, to be made out and sent to you. Before that is done, I should like, in the absence of the Attorney General, to have your opinion as to the course to be pursued in this delicate affair.[2]

Is it possible that Mr. Rhind can be insensible or indifferent to the ungenerous effect which this matter is calculated to have upon his standing in regard to the whole affair, and what a weapon he will put into the hands of his enemies?

Printed, *Reminiscences of James A. Hamilton*, p. 206 (17-1147).

1. On April 15, Van Buren directed William Brown Hodgson (1801–1871) to find David Porter in the Mediterranean, deliver his credentials and instructions, and accompany him to Constantinople—or, should Porter decline appointment as chargé, to go and effect the exchange of treaty ratifications himself (DNA-RG 59, M77-162). Hodgson sailed from Norfolk on May 4 on the sloop *John Adams*, under Master Commandant Philip Falkerson Voorhees (1792–1862).

2. Hamilton had suggested this move in his letter of April 9. On April 14, Van Buren sent Hamilton a directive to New York federal marshal Thomas Morris (1771–1849) to receive the four Arabian horses as property of the United States and dispose of them at public sale (DNA-RG 59, M40-22; Hamilton *Reminiscences*, p. 207). On April 17, Hamilton sent AJ a formal opinion that the constitutional interdiction against Rhind's retaining the horses was "so clear as to be beyond the reach of doubt or cavil." He reported visiting Rhind the same day and again endeavoring to persuade him "that he had no legal right whatever" to the horses (Hamilton *Reminiscences*, pp. 207–11). AJ wrote Hamilton on April 23 (below).

To Martin Van Buren

Washington April 12th. 1831—

Dear Sir,

Your letter resigning the office of Secretary of State, was received last evening. I could indeed wish that no circumstance had arisen to interrupt the relations which have for two years, subsisted between us, and that they might have continued through the period during which it may be my lot to remain charged with the duties which the partiality of my countrymen has imposed upon me. But the reasons you present are so strong that, with a proper regard for the considerations which you urge, I cannot ask you, on my own account, to remain in the cabinet.

I am aware of the dificulties you have had to contend with, and of the benefits which have resulted to the affairs of your country from your continued zeal in the arduous tasks to which you have been subjected. To say that I deeply regret to lose you, is but feebly to express my feelings on the occasion.

When called by my country to the station which I occupy, it was not without a deep sense of its arduous responsibilities and a strong distrust of myself that I obayed the call; but, cheered by the consciousness that no other motive actuated me than a desire to guard her interests and to place her upon the firm ground of those great principles which by the wisest & purest of our patriots, have been deemed essential to her prosperity, I ventured upon the trust assigned me. I did this in the confident hope of finding the support of advisers able and true, who laying aside every thing but a desire to give new vigor to the vital principles of our union, would look with a single eye to the best means of effecting this paramount object. In you, this hope has been realised to the utmost. In the most dificult and trying moments of my administration, I have always found you sincere, able and efficient, anxious at all times to afford me every aid. If however from circumstances in your ~~opinion~~ judgment sufficient to make it necessary, the official ties subsisting between us must be severed, I can only say that this necessity is deeply lamented by me, I part with you only because you yourself have requested ~~it~~ me to do so, and have sustained that request by reasons strong enough to command my assent. I cannot, however, allow the separation to take place without expressing the hope that this retirement from public affairs is but temporary, and that if in any other station the government should have occasion for services the value of which has been so sensibly felt by me, your consent will not be wanting.

Of the state of things to which you advert, I cannot but be fully aware. I look upon it with sorrow, and regret it the more because one of its first effects is to disturb the harmony of my cabinet. It is however but an instance of one of the evils to which free governments must ever be liable. The only remedy for these evils as they arise, lies in the intelligence and

public spirit of our common constituents. They will correct them; and in this there is abundant consolation. I cannot quit this subject without adding that, with the best opportunities for observing and judging, I have seen in you no other desire than to move quietly on in the path of your duties, and to promote the harmonious conduct of public affairs. If on this point, you have had to encounter detraction, it is but another proof of the utter insufficiency of innocence & worth to shield from such assaults.

Be assured that the interest you express in my happiness, is most heartily reciprocated. That my most cordial feelings accompany you, and that I am very sincerely your friend

Andrew Jackson

P.S. It is understood that you are to continue in office until your successor is appointed. A. J.

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (17-1151). ALS draft, DLC (39). Washington *Globe*, April 20, 1831; *Niles*, April 23.

To Martin Van Buren

confidential

My Dr Sir

you will find enclosed my reply to your letter, it is to be understood, that until the arival of Livingston, your resignation is not considered accepted.[1]

I have on a full view of the subject decided to appoint Mr Erwin judge—he is recommended by 15 members of Congress, besides others, and, altho, he may not be the best, they say he is so. I would like to have your suggestions on this matter, Mr Ingham is in favor of Mr Potter or Mr Lewis in preference, but as I am charged with making my appointments under his influence, in this, for the reasons above, it may be as well to appoint Erwin—yrs.[2]

Andrew Jackson

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (17-1156).

1. AJ had decided on Louisiana senator Edward Livingston to succeed Van Buren as Secretary of State. On April 9, Van Buren had written Livingston, then in New York, with confidential instructions from AJ to come quickly to Washington without letting his destination be known (Livingston Papers, NjP; Van Buren Papers, DLC, 17-1109).

2. William Wilson Potter (1792–1839) of Bellefonte was later a Pennsylvania congressman, and Ellis Lewis (1798–1871) was later chief justice of the state supreme court. Ingham had transmitted letters to AJ recommending both of them. AJ appointed Thomas Irwin federal district judge for western Pennsylvania on April 14.

From David W. Haley

Rankin Yazoo Co. Mi
April 15th 1831

Dear Genl.

Your friends and the friends of the choctaws in this country are highly gratified to see you have succeded in geting the late Treaty made with the choctaws ratified.[1] your greate friend and the true friend of the choctaws (Col Lefore) is now ready and anxiously wating to see measures adopted to remove his people. he is verry much concerned a bout them and perticular those of the other districts as he has it from good athority that there has been about 100 barrells of whisky purchised in Columbus since the 1st. of December and brought in to the nation this is at one point alone on the Tombigbee. in many parts of the nation they are living on roots and drinking whisky, and without a speedy removal many of them will be lost the laws of Mississippi prevent the head men in the nation from an interferance and the indians are at full liberty to do as they please. trough Col. Leflore alone you can get emigration put in a proper train. I do assure you they have no other man that can do it, many others in the nation think they are greate men and can do something but you may rest assured Leflore is the only man belonging to the nation that can command them and if he can be autherised to starte them you will have no trouble. he is as firm as the Rock of Giberaltir, you will know that every thing I have stated to you about this greate man has proven to be the truth. he will be stronger in the nation in a short time than he ever has been. he will no doubt take the office of fourth chief the greate Spirit made him to save his country men and through him alone it can be done.[2] in hast I have the honor to be your obt. sevt. & friend

D. W. Haley

[Endorsed by AJ:] Dept of War—A. J

ALS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-169). Copy, DNA-RG 46 (17-1167). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, p. 426 (Serial 245).

1. The September 1830 Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek was approved by the Senate on February 21 and formally ratified by AJ on February 24.

2. Article 15 of the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek provided annual salaries of $250 for each of the three Choctaw district chiefs and also $500 for a fourth, "if in addition to this the Nation shall think proper to elect an additional principal Chief of the whole to superintend and govern upon republican principles" (*Indian Treaties*, 2:313).

From Samuel Delucenna Ingham

Washington 18 Apr. 1831.

Sir

In communicating to me this morning the information of the resignation of the Secy of State and Secy of War, together with the reasons which had induced the former to take this step, you were pleased to observe that this proceeding was made known to me as one of those whom you had associated with you in the administration of the Govt. and you suggested that I would after a few days reflection have a further conversation with you on the subject. But in recurring to the brief remarks made by you at the time, as well as to the letter of the Secy of State which you were good enough to submit for my perusal, I have not been able to ascertain what particular matter connected with this event was intended to be proposed for my reflection. under these circumstances and being desirous of avoiding the possibility of misapprehension as to your views, I would respectfully enquire whether the measure adopted by the Secretaries of State and of War is deemed to involve considerations on which you expect a particular communication from me and if so of what nature—I have the honor to be with great respect your obt. srt.

S D Ingham

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr Ingham not answered—sent for him & informed him I had for reasons which I made known to him determined to reorganise my Cabinet proper & stated to him that Barry had offered his, & for reasons I stated, I had refused to accept it—A. J

ALS, DLC (39). *US Telegraph*, April 22, 1831; *Niles*, April 30.

Memorandum of Interviews with Samuel Delucenna Ingham and John Branch

On Monday the 18th. April 1831, the President sent for Mr Ingham Sec. of the Treasury, and informed him that he had sent for him to make known to him, that Mr Van Buren & Major Eaton had tendered their Resignations; that he had, on duly considering the reasons they had assigned, ~~had~~ consented to, and agreed to accept the same, so soon as he had made proper selections to fill their respective offices—and having come to the above resolution deemed it his duty to make the same known to him & Govr. Branch for the present in confidence until they had time to deliberate upon the subject. To which Mr Ingham made reply, that it was an event so new to him that it would require some time to deliberate, that he did not know the reasons that lead Mr. V. B. to the conclusion. I explained to him the

reasons—and then remarked, that in confidence I would shew him Mr. V. B. letter of resignation—after reading it, he remarked, it was a well writen letter & the reasons sound; & then said he supposed I had well considered the ~~subject~~ matter. I replied I had well considered the whole ground & having so considered, I thought it a duty I owed him & Govr. Branch, who was to be here at 2 oclock to make it known to them that they might also considered—he left me for to consider of it—Govr B. came, & I had a full conversation on the subject.

A. J.

ADS, DLC (39).

From Llewellyn Jones

Virginia Nottoway County April 18th. 1831

Dear Sir

I wrote you on the 2d instant[1] to which please be refered. Since which I have not had it in my power to make any purchases for your son but will embrace the first favourable opportunity that offers to do so.

The public papers announce the death of Genl. John Pegram Marshall for the Eastern District of Virginia.[2] I avail myself of the first mail since I heard of his death, to say to you, that I shall be glad to get the office made vacant by the Generals death. I do not wish or expect it, unless I can obtain satisfactory recommendations that I am worthy of the appointment, and competent to discharge the duties of the office. The object of this is to know of you whether it will be worth ~~my~~ while to procure and forward on to the proper department such recommendations as I can obtain. This letter to you may not be in accordance with the etiquette of applications for office. If not, I must beg to take shelter under your liberality & friendship, as I am inexperienced in business of this kind. And I have not had it my power since I heard of Genl. Pegrams death to consult with any of my friends on the subject. I present you my dear Sir the salutations of my sincere and faithful friendship & remain as always Yours most truly

Lew Jones

NB. direct to Macfarlands Va.

[Endorsed by AJ:] private answered as within april 21rst. 1831—addressed to Macfarlands Va.

ALS, DLC (39). AJ replied on April 21 (below).

1. Actually April 4 (above).

2. U.S. marshal and former Virginia militia general and congressman John Pegram (1773–1831) had died on April 8.

To Andrew Jackson Donelson

(private)

Washington April 19th. 1831

Dear Andrew

I cannot say whether this will reach you before you leave Nashville, I have therefore only to say, that from circumstances that has arisen, Mr Van Buren, & Major Eaton have both tendered their resignations, with feelings of patriots, & I expect the others of the Cabinet proper will follow the example. I respect all personally, and that injury may result to none, I have determined to reorganise my Cabinet proper, this being the only course, ~~proper~~ looking to justice to all, for me to pursue, under the circumstances I am now placed—you will therefore find an entire new Cabinet when you arive.

I have been a good deal afflicted with my left arm since you left me, & my labours have been incessant, still, providence sustains me, I have great need of your aid[1]

I have recd. a letter from Mr Lew Jones, he had not made the purchase for you, but was endeavoring to do so—he had not been able to purchase for my son at the sale, & I have instructed him not to purchase for him, unless he can send them to Tennessee—yours will be sent here.

Present my kind salutations to all my friends, & specially to Emily & Mary, yr children & the young ladies that will compose your family hither[.] yours respectfully

Andrew Jackson

P.S. Tomorrow the resignation of Mr V. B. & Eaton will be announcd & perhaps the others—A. J.[2]

ALS, DLC-Donelson Papers (17-1194).

1. AJ carried a bullet in his left arm from a September 1813 fight in Nashville against brothers Jesse and Thomas Hart Benton. The bullet was extracted in January 1832.

2. On April 20 the *Globe* announced the resignations of Van Buren, Eaton, Ingham, and Branch.

From John Branch

Washington City
April 19th 1831

Sir

In the interview which I had the honor to hold with you this morning I understood it to be your fixed purpose to reorganise your Cabinet and that, as to myself, it was your wish that I should retire from the administration of the Navy Department. Under these circumstances I take plea-

sure in tendering to you the commission which unsolicited on my part you were pleased to confer on me. I have the honor to be with great respect Your's etc

Jn Branch

ALS, DLC (39). *US Telegraph*, April 23, 1831; *Niles*, April 30.

To John Branch

April 19th 1831

Sir

your letter of this date by your son is just recd. & accompanying it, is your commission as Secretary of the Navy.[1] The sending of the latter was not necessary—it is your own private property, and by no means to be considered part of the archives of the Government. Accordingly I return it.

There is one expression in your letter to which I take leave to ~~accept~~ except. I ~~said~~ did not as to *yourself* express a wish that you should retire. The Secretary of State and ~~secretary~~ of war, haveing tendered their resignations, I remarked to you that I felt it to be indispensible to reorganise my Cabinet, proper; that it had come in harmoniously & as a unit, & as a part was about to leave me which would on tomorrow be announced, a reorganization was necessary to guard against misrepresentation These were my remarks made to you in candeur & sincerity. your letter gives a different import to my words. your letter contains no remark as to your performing the duties of the office until a successor can be selected

~~I desire to know your views~~ On this subject I should be glad to know your views—I am very respectfully yours,

Andrew Jackson

[Endorsed by AJ:] The Honble J. Branchs letter of resignation with my answer correcting an error—& not accepting his resignation until he replies—A. J.

ALS draft, DLC (39). *US Telegraph*, April 23, 1831; *Niles*, April 30.

1. The son was likely James Branch (1812–1839).

From John Branch

Washington City
April 19th 1831

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your's of this date in answer to mine of the same In reply to your remark that there ~~is~~ was

one expression in my letter to which you must except I would respectfully answer that I gave what I understood to be the substance of your conversation—I did not pretend to quote your language

I regret that I misunderstood you in the slightest degree. I however stand corrected & cheerfully accept the interpretation which you give to your own expressions

I shall freely continue my best exertions to discharge the duties of the Department untill you provide a successor[.] I have the honor to be Yours etc

Jn Branch

[Endorsed by AJ:] recd. April 19th. Govr. Branch in explanation of his letter of resignation—to be placed with the others—A. J

ALS, DLC (39). *US Telegraph*, April 23, 1831; *Niles*, April 30.

From Samuel Delucenna Ingham

Washington 19 Apr 31.

Sir

I am gratified to find myself entirely relieved by your distinct explanations at the interview to which you invited me this morning, from the uncertainty as to the object of your communication yesterday, which I refered to in my note of last evening; and have to make my acknowledgements for the kindness with which you have expressed your satisfaction with the manner in which I have discharged the duties of the station to which you had thought proper to invite me, and your conviction of the public confidence in my administration of the Treasury Department. I beg leave however to add in my own justification for not following the example of the Secretary of State, and Secy of War, in making a voluntary tender of the resignation of my office, as soon as I was acquainted with theirs, that I was wholly unconscious of the ~~proper~~ application to myself, of any of the reasons, so far as I was apprized of them, which had induced them to with draw from the public service. It therefore seem'd to be due to my own character which might otherwise have been exposed to unfavorable imputations that I should find a reason for resigning in a distinct expression of your wish to that effect; this wish has now been frankly announced, and has enabled me to place my retirement on its true ground. I have therefore the honor of tendering you my resignation of the office of Secretary of the Treasury of the U.S.; which you will be pleased to accept to take effect as soon as my services may be dispensed with consistently with your views of the public interest.

I seize the occasion to offer you my thanks for the many testimonials I have received of your kindness and confidence during our official

connection and especially for the renewed assurances to day of the same sentiments. I have the honor to be with great respect your most obt. srt.

S D Ingham

ALS, DLC (39). *US Telegraph*, April 22, 1831; *Niles*, April 30.

From Henry Eckford

Washington 19 April 1831

Sir

I have just launched a fast sailing ship in the city of N. york, with which I purpose proceeding to Europe, for the express purpose of presenting her as a fair specimen of American Naval Architecture and while there, to dispose of her, and make such other arrangements to extend that most usefull Branch of American Manufactures, as I might deem advantageous, should any thing of that kind present itself. It may be proper to add, that as well in clearing out of the Ports of the U. States, as in disposing of the vessel, I shall not depart from the laws of the U. States.[1]

Having been employed by the U. States Government, at different periods, in the Construction of Ships of War, and having built within a few years, a number of large ships which I sold, and delivered to foreign Governments.

The general satisfaction which I flatter myself I gave in all these cases, both at home and abroad, and your general knowledge of those facts, has induced me to ask the favour of your opinion as to my standing as a Naval Architect, and from my Experience, situation, and Enterprize, whether a faithfull and punctual performance on my part of any engagements I might enter into in my Profession, might be calculated upon with safety, and performed by me in the best manner, both as to model, and materials[.] I am Sir with very Great Respect your most obedt Sert

Henry Eckford

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr. H. Eckfords letter of the 19th of april, with my answer of the 20th. to be filed with my private papers—A. J

ALS, DLC (39). Eckford (1775–1832), a renowned naval architect and shipbuilder, had launched the corvette *United States* from his New York yard on April 13. AJ replied to him on April 20 (below).

1. A law of April 20, 1818, forbade fitting out a warship within the U.S. intended for use by a foreign power against a country with which the U.S. was itself at peace.

From Samuel Swartwout

New York 19 April 1831

Dear Sir,

Apprehending that you may not be able to account for the introduction of my name into one of our daily papers here, in a controversy between Mr. Burrows & the Editor of the Standard, I beg permission to trouble you with the following explanation.

About a week ago, Mumford the Editor of the Standard charged Mr. Burrows with having offered to bribe him on the part of the UStates Bank. This information astounded everybody. Mr Burrows called upon me and two or three other gentlemen & requested that we would go with him to see Mumford, hoping to produce an explanation that would remove the charge. I was unwilling to pay such a visit, but as Mr. Burrows, had befriended me on a former occasion, I could not refuse his request. The result of the conference between them amounted to nothing & we all left the Printer's office under an impression that *our names* were not to be foisted into the public prints. Mr. Mumford who is a very indiscreet, if not a very wicked man, disregarded his promise & paraded our names at length, refering the public to us for an explanation of what took place at his office. We knew nothing except what passed between the parties, at the time, and that was mere charges & recrimination. I never dreampt of Mr Burrows being in any way connected with the Bank and was utterly astounded at the charge from Mumford & I do not believe the charge any more than I believe the wicked & brutal charges that are constantly made against our friends at Washington. At all events be the accusation true or false, in itself, all that I, or Mr. Govneur or Mr. Hone had to do with it, was the hearing we gave the parties to make their charges & denials at the interview.

Being desirous of standing fairly in your opinion & that of my other friends, at a distance, has induced me to enter into this explanation. I hope you will excuse it & believe me most sincerely and respectfully Yr Excellency's Obt Servt.

Saml. Swartwout

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr Swarwout on the subject of his name appe[aring] in the paper *private* A. J

ALS, TNJ (17-1197). Swartwout (1783–1856) was the New York City customs collector, appointed by AJ in 1829. Silas Enoch Burrows (1794–1870) was a merchant and a confidential political agent of Bank of the United States president Nicholas Biddle. John I. Mumford (1791–1863) edited the *New York Standard & Statesman*.

On April 11, the day that resolutions opposing renewal of the BUS charter passed the New York state legislature, Mumford charged in the *Standard* that Burrows had tried to bribe him in March to editorially support recharter with an offer of $500, later raised to $1,000. Burrows called on Mumford the same day, accompanied by Swartwout and New

York City postmaster Samuel Laurence Gouverneur (1799–1865). Burrows told Biddle in letters of April 11 and 12 that Mumford there admitted that he had asked Burrows for money in March, and that Burrows had responded by offering a personal loan of $500 if good security was provided, adding "that I should not suppose the editor would continue his hostility to the U S Bank in which my property was to so great an extent placed" (Biddle Papers, DLC). He had said this, he told Biddle, not to bribe Mumford but to point out the incongruity in Mumford's soliciting money from BUS stockholders while assailing their interests in his paper. The *New-York American* on April 14 reported Burrows's version, adding that Mumford had spitefully accused Burrows only after Burrows refused Mumford's begging for clothes and an unsecured loan. Mumford in subsequent editorials and affidavits held to his charges of attempted bribery by Burrows and of wholesale corruption by the BUS. "Mr. Hone" was perhaps Henry Hone, nephew of merchant and diarist Philip Hone. He followed Mumford as editor of the *Standard* in 1833.

To Samuel Delucenna Ingham

[Printed here are Jackson's draft and a reworking by Nicholas P. Trist. The sent letter, as first published in the Telegraph *on April 22, followed Trist's corrected text.]*

Sir

~~I~~ Late last evening I had the honor to receive your letter of the 19th. tendering your resignation of Secretary of the Treasury of the U. States.

When the resignations of the Sec. of state & war were first tendered to me, I deliberated well upon the reasons offered, and all the circumstances, with which the subject was connected, and after mature consideration concluded finally to accept their resignations. But ~~before~~ when this conclusion was come to, I found from all the causes growing out of the circumstances, ~~with~~ of the times that when I accepted their resignations I must reorganise my Cabinet—it had been invited by me to the stations each occupied, it came together in great harmony & was a unit—that under present circumstances with which I was surrounded I could not permit ~~one or~~ two to retire, without affording the malignant room to assail those who ~~had~~ were permitted to retire and whose patriotism were such that they could not consistant with self respect & the quiet & prosperity of the administration remain—that justice might be done to all—all coming into my Cabinet in harmony as a unit & all haveing my confidence, I determined to accept the resignations, and reorganize my Cabinet proper. ~~This deter~~, however painful ~~it~~ this act might be to myself. I therefore felt it a duty I owed to you frankly to make known the whole matter, ~~to you~~ and whilst I accept the tender of your resignation, it is with great pleasure I bear testimony to the ability, and untiring zeal with which you superintended the fiscal concerns of the nation ~~with~~ which has obtained for you my full confidence in your integrity & talents, and in the discharge of all the duties of ~~the~~ your office over which I had controle ~~you~~ I have ~~given~~ been fully satistisfied and in your retirement you will carry with you my

warmest wishes for your prosperity, and happiness. It is expected that you continue to discharge the duties of the office until a successor is selected—

[Wrapper endorsed by AJ:] resignations of the Secretaries of Treasury & Navy & and reply—to be filed—A. J.
Judge Berriens resignation and its acceptance[1] A. J
extracts of Mr Calhouns letters to his correspondent in Tennessee—[2]

AL Draft, DLC (39).

1. Berrien resigned as attorney general on June 15 (below).
2. Alfred Balch gave AJ extracts from Calhoun's letters around June 25 (below).

Washington, April 20. 1831.

Sir,

Late last evening, I had the honor to receive your letter of that date, tendering your resignation of the office of Secretary of the Treasury.

When the resignations of the Secretary of State and Secretary of War were tendered, I considered fully the reasons offered, and all the circumstances connected with the subject~~; and~~. After mature deliberation I concluded to accept those resignations. But when this conclusion was come to, it was accompanied ~~by the~~ with a conviction that I must entirely renew my Cabinet. Its members had been invited by me to the stations they occupied —it had come together in great harmony, and as a unit. Under the circumstances in which I ~~now~~ found myself, I could not but perceive the ~~prospect afforded by~~ propriety of selecting a Cabinet composed of entirely new materials, ~~for an Administration more harmonious in itself, and better~~ as being calculated, in this respect at least, to command public confidence and satisfy public opinion. Neither could I be insensible to the fact, that to permit two, only, to retire would be to afford room for ~~most~~ unjust misconceptions and malignant misrepresentations concerning the influence of their particular presence upon the conduct of public affairs. Justice to the individuals whose public spirit had impelled them to tender their resignations also required then, in my opinion, the decision which I have stated. However painful to my own feelings, it became necessary, ~~therefore~~ that I should frankly make known to you my view of the whole subject.

In accepting your resignation, it is with great pleasure that I bear testimony to the integrity, ~~ability~~ and ~~untiring~~ zeal with which you have managed the fiscal concerns of the nation.[1] In your discharge of all the duties of your office over which I have any control, I have been fully satisfied; and in your retirement you carry with you my best wishes for your prosperity and happiness. It is expected that you continue to discharge the duties of your office until a successor is appointed. I have the honor to be with great respect, yr most obt. servt.

Draft in Nicholas P. Trist's hand with corrections by AJ, DLC (39). *US Telegraph*, April 22, 1831; *Niles*, April 30.

1. AJ marked for insertion here "The concerns of the navy," showing that this served also as the model for the following letter to John Branch.

To John Branch

WASHINGTON, April 20, 1831.

SIR:

Late last evening, I had the honor to receive your letter of that date, tendering your resignation of the office of Secretary of the Navy.

When the resignations of the Secretary of State and Secretary of War were tendered, I considered fully the reasons offered, and all the circumstances connected with the subject. After mature deliberation, I concluded to accept those resignations. But when this conclusion was come to, it was accompanied with a conviction that I must entirely renew my Cabinet. Its members had been invited by me to the stations they occupied—it had come together in great harmony, and as a unit. Under the circumstances in which I found myself, I could not but perceive the propriety of selecting a cabinet composed of entirely new materials, as being calculated, in this respect at least, to command public confidence and satisfy public opinion. Neither could I be insensible to the fact, that to permit two only to retire would be to afford room for unjust misconceptions and malignant misrepresentations concerning the influence of their particular presence upon the conduct of public affairs. Justice to the individuals whose public spirit had impelled them to tender their resignations, also required, then, in my opinion, the decision which I have stated. However painful to my own feelings, it became necessary that I should frankly make known to you my view of the whole subject.

In accepting your resignation, it is with great pleasure that I bear testimony to the integrity and zeal with which you have managed the concerns of the Navy. In your discharge of all the duties of your office, over which I have any control, I have been fully satisfied; and in your retirement you carry with you my best wishes for your prosperity and happiness. It is expected that you will continue to discharge the duties of your office until a successor is appointed.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

ANDREW JACKSON.

Printed, *United States' Telegraph*, April 23, 1831 (mAJs). *Niles*, April 30 (17-1200).

To Andrew Jackson Donelson

[This letter is extant only in a later printed version.]

WASHINGTON, April 20, 1831.

My Dear Andrew:

Yours of the 4th instant detailing the melancholy event of the sudden death of your respected and aged grandmother has just reached me, and I convey to you and through you to all her connections and neighbors my sincere condolence on this mournful occasion, and have made to Gov. Branch the communication requested.[1] Present me kindly to your mother and Uncle George and their families, and assure them that my sympathetic tears flow with theirs on this mournful occasion, but I rejoice that she was prepared to meet her Savior and Redeemer with confidence and cheerfulness. We ought all to live to know how to die.

The Globe of to-day will give the intelligence of the resignation of four of my Cabinet. This has been personally painful to myself, but under the circumstances the only proper course left me. We all separate with good feelings, which makes it less painful. The separation from such a confidential friend as Eaton and the loss of real talents and devotion of Mr. Van Buren, who both have labored so zealously and with an eye single to the success of my administration, is truly painful, as well as to separate from Gov. Branch, in whose friendship I have the fullest confidence; and you know the full confidence I had in the private and official honesty and capacity of Mr. Ingham, that made it necessary in the opinion of Maj. Eaton and Mr. Van Buren for the quiet of the country and success of my administration that they should retire. I knew if they did not I could not get along with the others. The malignant would have assailed them and me. etc., etc.

I, therefore, under due consideration for these and other reasons now necessary, determined me to accept their resignations and reorganize my Cabinet. Never was more disinterested patriotism displayed than in that of Eaton and Van Buren. I have written to Judge White to fill the War, Livingston to fill the State, and will write to Woodbury to fill the Navy and McClain, London, to fill the Treasury. If these gentlemen accept we will get on. I have not yet determined who I shall select for the Attorney General. Judge Bemin is in Georgia, and nothing will be done until he returns in this case.

I am labored night and day and a good deal afflicted, although I am thankful to my God for the reassurance of health he bestows. Kiss the children for me, and present me to the mother, grandmother and all the family, including Mary Easton and all the connection. In haste, I am, affectionately,

ANDREW JACKSON.

Printed, TNJ (17-1201).

1. Donelson's maternal grandmother Sarah Michie Smith had died on April 2. John Branch's daughter Margaret was married to Donelson's brother, Daniel Smith Donelson.

To Henry Eckford

Washington 20th. april 1831—

Sir

I have received your letter of the 19th. instant, in which you state that you have just launched a fast sailing ship in the city of Newyork with which you propose proceeding to Europe for the purpose of presenting her as a specimen of american naval architecture, & to dispose of her, & ~~to~~ make such other arangements to extend that useful branch of american manufacture as you may find practicable—that as well in clearing out of the ports of the U. States, as in disposing of your vessel, you will conform to the laws of the United States; and asking my opinion ~~of~~ as to your standing as a naval architect, and whether from your experience situation & enterprise, and faithful performance of your engagements in the way of your profession you can be relied upon.

It gives me pleasure to state in reply, that you sustain the reputation in this country, and I have no doubt deservedly, of being a naval architect~~ure~~ of great skill & enterprise; and that I should count with confidence on a faithful performance of any engagement in the way of your profession in which you might think proper to embark.

You have before I came into it been extensively employed by the Government in that line and have, as I have always understood, done it ful justice[.] I am very respectfully your obedient servt.

signed Andrew Jackson

ALS draft, DLC (39). It was understood that Eckford planned to approach the Turkish government. Van Buren wrote him a personal letter of introduction to David Porter this same day, April 20 (CtY). On April 22, Van Buren wrote Porter officially, summarizing AJ's exchange with Eckford and stressing that AJ had written only "in his individual capacity," not as an official endorsement. Van Buren instructed Porter to "discourage and repress" any action by Eckford that raised the slightest risk of violating American neutrality or causing offense to any foreign power. Further, if needed, Porter was to "take care to let it be understood by the Government of the Porte, and the foreign agents residing at Constantinople, that this is exclusively & entirely a private and individual enterprize of Mr Eckford himself, in which this Government has no concern whatever, and with which it is in no way connected" (DNA-RG 59, M77-162). Eckford sailed the *United States* to Constantinople, where he sold it to the Turkish government and engaged to build more. He died there in 1832.

From Edward Livingston

New York 20. Apl 1831

My Dear General

I am ready to accept the honorable appointment which your good opinion has offerred me and which I shall use every endeavour to justify in the judgment of the nation. I can not hope in all respects to replace the excellent friend and able minister whose post you request me to occupy: but in the sincerest attachment to your person and pride in the reputation you have acquired for yourself and your Country you know you may implicitly rely—as well as on my earnest endeavours, to evince my faithful friendship and my desire to promote the honor & happiness of the nation so essentially connected with your own—I am with the Highest respect Your Friend & Mo Obd St

Edw Livingston

ALS, DLC (39).

From Hugh Lawson White

Flint Hill
April 20th. 1831.

My dear Sir,

By the last mail I received your favor under date of the 9th. instant. I am sorry that any thing should have occured, to render it necessary, that any of your Cabinet should desire to withdraw, or that you should request them to do so. With Major Eaton I was intimately associated for several years, in the course of which, I formed a sincere friendship for him, which I hope and expect will last as long as life is spared to me; and should he return to Tennessee, it will give me the most sincere pleasure, to contribute all in my power to place him in any public station desired by him, or his friends. It ought not however to be concealed from him, or you, that he will have difficulties to encounter, with some of our friends, on account of some of his votes while in the Senate. With Mr. Van Buren I served several sessions and ever found him frank, candid and firm, in the course his judgment approved.[1] His talents are unquestioned even by his bitter enemies.

You are correct in placing me among the number of those, who desired to withdraw you from your chosen retreat, and to place you in the conspicuous station you now occupy. For this I had many reasons First I wished to see the good old democratic doctrines practically restored to the Federal Government, and the modern doctrine of constructive powers abolished. With you at the Head of the Government I believed this would be more likely to be effected, than with any other man. Secondly I had some state pride. You were a Tennessean. Thirdly I believed the public owed you more, for services actually rendered, than it did to any living

man, and lastly you were my friend, and my fathers friend, and I wished to do any thing, and every thing in my power, consistent with my country's good, to prove my unlimited confidence in your capacity for business, and in your integrity of character. Happily, as I think, for the people of the United States, we succeeded to the extent of our wishes, and thus far I have not been disappointed.

My dear Sir, your kind wishes towards me personally cannot be realised. Nothing would add more to my comfort than to be so near you as to have a constant personal intercourse with you so long as we both live: but I am a believer in the doctrine of the late Lord Littleton, "That every man who is fit for any public employ is a better Judge of what he is fitted for than any of his friends, and that he shews his weakness by permiting himself to be placed in a station, for which he is not qualified." I am not qualified to discharge the duties of the office your partiality would confer upon me, and to qualify myself would require more labour than at this time of life could conveniently be submitted to. Again I must retain a home in Tennessee, and were I to go to Washington, my property would not only be unproductive but much of it wasted. Lastly I am your *personal* and *political friend*, and from you cannot accept office. If I wished an office, within the gift of the President, it would be my hearts desire that you should be displaced, because from a man whose undeviating friendship I have experienced from boyhood to advanced life, I never can think of either asking or accepting office. In this rule of conduct my opinion is so firmly fixed, that nothing could induce me to depart from it, but a belief that unless the public could receive my services in some particular office my country would sustain an injury. I have no idea that such a crisis has arrived, or ever will, in my day. Among your acquaintances there are many from whose services both you and the public would derive more benefit than any my humble abilities would enable me to render. With all the grateful feelings which a man ought to possess, for the honor your kindness would bestow I must be permited to decline the offer you have made in such obliging terms, under a conviction that farther reflection will satisfy you that my non acceptance was alike due to the public, to you, and to myself. Your Sincere friend

Hu. L. White

ALS, DLC (39). AJ replied on April 29 (below).

1. White and Van Buren had been in the Senate together from 1825 to 1828.

To Llewellyn Jones

april 21rst. 1831

My Dr Sir

your letter of the 18th. has just been received; and I hasten to answer it.

Before your letter reached me I had made the appointment of Major Christian to f*[ill]* the office of Marshal vacated by the death of Genl Pegram. I regret therefore that your name had not been presented in time; ~~and~~ it will always afford me pleasure to serve you when I can with propriety. I am very respectfully your friend

A. J

ALS draft, DLC (39; 17-1202). On April 15 AJ had commissioned Edmund Christian (d. 1851) as marshal for the eastern district of Virginia.

To Levi Woodbury

(Copy)

Washington April 21rst. 1831

Dr Sir

The office of Secretary of the Navy has become vacant by the resignation of Mr Branch. Reposing full confidence in your patriotism and capacity to discharge its duties with usefulness to your country & credit to yourself, I have determined to offer the place to your acceptance. You will oblige me by an early answer, and in case of acceptance, by informing me at what time it will be in your power to enter upon the duties of the office. I am, Sir, with great respect you most obdt. servt.

Andrew Jackson

[Endorsed by AJ:] letter to Levi Woodbury Esqr april 21rst. 1831, inviting him to the office of Sec. of the Navy

ALS copy, DLC (39). Woodbury (1789–1851) had been a New Hampshire judge, governor, and most recently U.S. senator from 1825 to 1831. He replied on April 27 (below).

To Samuel Delucenna Ingham

22d. Apl. 1831

D. Sir,

In looking over the Telegraph this evening I was not a little surprised to find your note ~~of~~ to me of the 18th. published, in which reference is made to Mr. Van Burens letter of resignation.[1] That letter was shown to you, in strict confidence, on our first interview upon the subject of Mr. Van Burens and Major Eaton's resignations; and in our second interview, on the 19th., I expressed to you my surprise to see reference made to it in your note of the 18th. which was not marked confidential. I again assured you that Mr. Van Buren's letter was shown to you without his knowledge or consent, and in confidence—not to be used in any way, and that you

would so consider it. You remarked that you recd. it as such, and that it should be so considered. Under these circumstances, you may judge of my surprise on finding it published in the Telegraph.[2] The object of this note, therefore, is to be informed whether its publication has been with your knowledge, or consent. I will thank you for an answer. I am very respectfully Your Obt. Sert.

signed, Andrew Jackson

[Endorsed by William T. Barry:] The President in his last letter to Mr. Ingham has explained fully the grounds upon which he has acted in consenting to a change of his Cabinet. If in the subsequent conduct of Mr. Ingham he has violated confidence, this may influence the course of the President, but need not draw him into a further correspondence which may give consequence to Mr Ingham, but cannot benefit the President

Draft in William B. Lewis's hand, DLC (39). This letter was almost certainly not sent. No reply is extant.

1. On April 20 the *Globe* had published Van Buren's April 11 resignation letter and AJ's April 12 acceptance, and announced also the resignations of Eaton, Ingham, and Branch. Eaton's April 7 resignation letter and AJ's April 8 acceptance were furnished to the *National Intelligencer* the evening of April 20 and first published there the next day, April 21. The *Telegraph* then on April 22 published Ingham's letters of April 18 and 19 and AJ's response of April 20. On April 23 the *Telegraph* also published the four letters AJ and Branch had exchanged on April 19 and 20.

2. Barry wrote and marked for insertion here: "not that I desired to conceal anything from the public eye, but to mantain that respect which was due to a member of my cabinet, who had frankly disclosed his views to me & which was confidentially communicated to you."

To James Alexander Hamilton

Washington April 23rd. 1831

Dear Sir,

I have directed instructions to be given to you to require from Mr Rhind the release of the Arabian Horses proffered in his letter of the 10th. of December last. I cannot permit myself to doubt his complience with this request. I feel for Mr Rhinds welfare & shall always be disposed to do justice to the zeal he has manifested in the public service; but it is due to candor, as well as to himself, that he should know that if he should ~~refuse~~ prove capable of refusing to comply with the promise he has made in this respect, & which has been formally communicated to Congress, & the nation, no confidence between him and the Government will for the future be admisable. I will thank you to communicate this to him in the most kind manner in which it is dictated. I would deeply regret that his public services should wind up in this untoward manner, but the credit &

character of the public peace must go before all personal considerations. I am very respectfully your friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, NN (17-1207). Hamilton *Reminiscences*, p. 212. Van Buren sent Hamilton this letter accompanied by formal instructions to require the horses from Rhind, while this same day Hamilton wrote Van Buren reporting Rhind's continuing refusal to release them. Van Buren replied on April 25, hoping that AJ's letter "will bring him to his senses" (Hamilton *Reminiscences*, pp. 211, 213–14). Hamilton wrote AJ on May 3 (below).

To Samuel Jackson Hays

(Private)

Washington April 23rd. 1831

Dear Saml

I have just recd. your interesting letter of the 4th. instant & hasten to acknowledge it. I trust for the honor of the state, your Congressional District will not disgrace themselves longer by sending that profligate man Crockett back to Congress.

you have judged rightly in the matter in witholding from Col Stockly D. Hays the information of Crocketts conduct toward him, if the result would have been, an attack by Col Hays upon him. My view in communicating it, was that those who had recommended him might be informed of his *base* course as a machine in the hands of my enemies, for it was a direct attack upon those who recommended him—since Congress adjourned it has come to my knowledge that Poindexter has behaved as deceiptfully & basely as Mr Crockett on the subject—have wrote to Col Thos H Williams & furnished him with the means of an antidote against Poindexters perfidy, with directions to shew my letter with Judge Mitchels of Tennessee to every member of the Legislature who voted for him.[1]

you will see from the Globe that Van Buren & Eaton having tendered their resignations in the Cabinet, I have determined to reorganize it anew except the Postmaster General. This step had become necessary, from the deep intrigue of Duff Green Calhoune & Co—a more corrupt set never existed in any Country, and by attending to The Globe you will find that this plot began before I was inagurated & I have discovered of late that one, if not more, of my Cabinet have been deep into these intrigues, managed by Mr Calhoun to bring into disrepute my administration, that Genl Duff Greens prediction in 1829 might become true, "that Mr Calhouns claims could not be posponed longer than to the end of my first term—hence the conduct of McDuffie, & the movements of the nulifiers in So. Carolina, and the attempt here in the Jefferson Dinner to get me identified with the nullifiers. But altho unsuspecting, until I sat down to the dinner table, having been assured by the committee who waited upon me, that nothing of politicks, was to be included in it, I there, on taking up the

toasts & reading them saw the whole plot, and this maneuvre was alone checkmated by my toast, which brought down upon me the whose ire of the nullifyers—hence the continued & foul abuse of Mr Van Buren, viewing him in the way of Calhoun.[2] Van Buren is one of the purest republicans in the Union, whilst, *I now know*, that Calhoun is the most deceptious intriguing demagogue in it. I [also] know he will lie with the same facility that an honest man will tell the truth. I once had unlimited confidence in him, that is lost forever—he is as unprincipled as Henry Clay, and would sacrafice every thing to his ambition

The plan they thought was well laid—they thought I must not remove Ingham that it would arouse Pennsylvania against me, and Calhoun had urged him, not to resign. I foresaw the plan It was foreseen by Mr Van Buren, & Major Eaton, and their disinterested patriotism at once induced them to tender their resignations, that opened the way to a reorganization of my Cabinet. Therefore you see, that the opposition with Genl Duff Green Calhoun & Co was checkmated by a single move of these valuable patriots, and the country saved from distraction

This act of these men, shews how deinterested their patriotism are, whilst others are lying, intrigueing, and plotting to get into office, these men, for public good, are voluntarly surrender theirs. I trust your pen will do justice to this disinterested act of Patriotism.

Say to Chester with my kind wishes to him & Betsey—that I could not give him the office of marshal—it was filled before his letter reached me some days—it would have authorised Poindexter & Crokett to say it was distributing all offices amonghst my connection, no man I think more worthy & when I can will I with more pleasure serve.[3] Present me to Frances, kiss the son for me, present me kindly to your mother & Narcissa, and all connections & believe me yr friend

Andrew Jackson

(Confidential strictly so)

P.S. When I asked Major Eaton to take a seat in the ~~Senate~~ Cabinet he was a member of the Senate—he with great reluctance, & purely with friendship to me, yielded to my solicitations—it was a happy thing for me & the nation he was near me—his good judgt. and personal popularity, give him the means of acquiring correct knowledge of all the intrigues secretely practiced against me—it was his well known friendship to me, that caused the secrete movements of Calhouns friends to destroy him, & drive him from the Cabinet, by which they thought one might be selected subservient to their views, and by which means they might seperate me from Van Buren whose republican worth & talents they dreaded, and from the prosperity in our Foreign relations they saw with sorrow & jelousy his rising popularity in the nation, which proved a great damper to Mr. C. & his friends ambitious views—he must therefore be destroyed. The attempt

has been made & Mr Calhoun Green & Co prostrated. But there is a debt due to my faithful Eaton from the state & from myself. I have asked Judge White to fill the vacancy occasioned by Major Eatons resignation I hope he will accept, should he, there will be a vacancy in the senate, and it is due to him that he should fill by the voluntary voice of the Legislature of Tennessee that vacancy. I want strength in the senate *real not professed*—men, who will Legislate with an eye single to the good of the country, and not disturb it with electioneering for the Presidency. This act of the State of Tennessee would do more for the benefit of my administration than any act it could do—it would be more gratifying to me than all the favours it has bestowed upon me—it would be changing judge White to his situation, and Major Eaton to judge Whites for the two sessions to come which will be the most important to me, and where I could have his aid, & to whom I could communicate freely & confidencially

If Mr Huntsville will unite in this thing with others who from the eastern & middle Tennessee will, & from whom, this suggestion of justice to Eaton, first comes. The Legislature will adopt this measure so pleasing to me & benefical to the country as far as my administration is concerned. Sound Mr Huntsman on this subject—you can freely say to him the confidence I have in Eaton & how pleasing it would be to me to have him in the Senate—you can say all I write, but not that I have wrote to you upon this subject. I leave the matter to you & my confidential friends—read this make notes from, & then burn it. yrs affectionately

A J.

P.S. Major Eaton will not offer himself—to be beneficial it must be a voluntary act of the Legislature—*mind this*

ALS, Harry S. Hays (17-1210). *Historic Madison*, pp. 403–6.

1. April 7, above. Stockley Donelson Hays was Samuel's brother.

2. On April 6, 1831, the *Globe* accused *Telegraph* editor Duff Green of having intrigued to supplant AJ with Calhoun at the next presidential election ever since Calhoun's arrival in Washington at the opening of the Twenty-first Congress in December 1829. The *Globe* reported Green as then saying that Calhoun's "claims could not be postponed another four years." On April 13, 1830, AJ had attended a ceremonial dinner in Washington in honor of Thomas Jefferson's birthday. Many of the twenty-four prepared printed toasts championed state's rights and warned of federal oppression. AJ gave the first "volunteer" toast that followed: "Our *Federal* Union—*It must be preserved*" (*Jackson Papers*, 8:190). AJ's toast was generally taken as a rebuke to the nullifiers. George McDuffie (1790–1851) was a South Carolina congressman and Calhoun associate. He had angered AJ in 1830 by not backing his proposal for electoral college reform and then, as chairman of the House Committee of Ways and Means, by submitting a report on the Bank of the United States that upheld its constitutionality and utility and excoriated AJ's idea of a government-owned alternative.

3. Robert J. Chester's wife, Elizabeth Hays Chester (1805–1841), was Samuel's sister.

To John Rhea

(Private)

Washington City April 23th 1831.

My Dear Sir,

I have received your letter of the 15th. inst with the letters inclosed & therein refered to—they came safely. I had written to judge Overton, but my letter reached him much indisposed, and as soon as he was able to be moved, he went on board a steam boat & sailed for New Orleans since which time I have not heard from him. I have sent for my papers, but they have not reached me, but from the only memorandums I have been able to find, the following is the date of the letters, which I send you for your satisfaction, as near as can be ascertained.

My confidential letter bears date on the 6th. of Janry. 1818. at Nashville Tennessee. This must have reached Washington between the 19th & 24th of the same month. Your answer to it was recd. at Hartford (on Big Creek 2 miles from Hartford, where the bridge was broke.) Ga. directed to me at Ft Scott about the 20th. or 22d of February 1818 and was sent home sealed up, to my dear wife with some other private and confidential papers, with instructions that they should not be opened until I returned, unless in case of my death when they were to be handed over to Judge Overton, and by him, part of them, to Majr Eaton, to whom I had bequeathed my papers.[1] From the time when, and the place where your letter was received, it must have been written and dated about the 28th or 30th of Janry. 1818. God spared me to return, when my dear wife handed the papers to me sealed up as they had left me; and when Judge Overton undertook to write the "defence of the Executive of the U States and his Commanding General in the Seminole War," this letter, with all others relating to the Seminole War, was placed before him. The Judge has a distinct recollection of seeing it & it being in your own proper hand writing; I have his letter on this subject which you can see, when you visit me.[2] I hope the Judge will be here, if his health will permit in next month.

These are the dates as far as I have any memorandums. The date of my letter to Mr Monroe is the 6th of Janry, I reached Hartford Georgia, on the 14 of February 1818, I left it on the 22 of Febry, and recd your letter at that place, and from the usual time from the city of Washington to that place it must have been written and dated about the 28th or 30th. of Janry 1818.

In 1819, whilst I was here attending the debate on the Seminole war, and about the rise of Congress you came to me from Mr Monroes to Strothers, and after enquiring whether I had received such a letter from you & being assured by me that ~~you~~ I had—you requested me as a friend & brother mason to burn it, as soon as I returned home. On this request I promised you that I would, and agreeable thereto in the presence of Mr J. Overton committed it to the flames—the fact of your requesting me to

burn it, I want you to state. This is important to me; and as you came direct from Mr. Monroes, I have always thought it was by his & Mr Calhoun's request you applied to me on that occasion, and if it be so, I wish you to state it.

Write to me on the receipt of this, & believe me your friend.

Signed Andrew Jackson

PS You will see from the papers that I have from circumstances with which I found myself surrounded, reorganized my Cabinet. I was obliged to yield to the patriotism of the Secretary of State & War, and loose their able and faithful aid. I had great confidence in them both, & am sure their Country will duly appreciate their patriotism.

(signd) A J—

Copy in AJ Jr.'s hand, DLC (73). AJ Donelson's copy of Rhea's June 3, 1831, letter to Monroe (below) begins directly below the postscript, on the same page.

1. The phrase in parentheses is a marginal insertion. On February 19, 1818, AJ wrote Rachel a letter headed "Creek nation one mile in advance of Hartford Georgia." A postscript reads: "P.S. preserve with care the letter of Mr John Rhea which I enclose A. J." (Bloomsbury Auctions sale, December 10, 2008, mAJs).

2. Overton's February 3 letter to AJ (above) said it was his "present impression" that AJ had showed him Rhea's letter.

To John Coffee

(Private)

Washington April 24th. 1831.

Mr Dr. Genl

your letter of the 2d. instant, recommending judge Phillips for marshal has just been received—before it reached me; I had filled the office vacated by our departed friend, by the appointment of Col Marshal, whose recommendations, now, & heretofore, for this office, could not be overlooked. There were many of my friends worthy & true, offering, but one alone could be gratified. I had every desire to promote the welfare of young Mr Purdy—to him the office could not be given, he was not of age. I caused Major Lewis, however, to write Col Marshal to continue him Deputy, which will enable him to collect his fathers dues, & keep him employed.[1]

*You will see from the papers, that I am engaged in reorganising my Cabinet. The secrete workings of Duff Green Calhoon & Co, is clarly developed. I have now a clue to all the maneuvers, and secrete plans of this junto, with the members of Congress, to produce opposition to my measures recommended, & particularly to the bill for the removal of the Indians. I have clear evidence why such a number of the members of Pennsylvania voted against this bill ~~for the removal of the Indians~~. The

coalition believed, I would not part from Van Buren & Eaton, & that if I removed the secretary of the Treasury, it would arouse the whole state of Pennsylvania against me. How little do they know me—and judging of others by themselves, they could not believe, that so much disinterested patriotism, could dwell in the breasts of Van Buren & Eaton as to resign office; when they were intriguing & using every wicked means, (disregarding the best interests of their country in the great struggle) to get into office. They found them selves mistaking, and that by one move on the political chest board, the whole combination ~~of~~ with the coalition were checkmated. This act of disinterested patriotism of Van Buren & Eaton, must be long remembered by a grateful country. It has placed me in a situation to renew my Cabinet, which I will endeavour to do, by men over whom, the intrigues of Calhoun can have no influence, but will with the same zeal & patriotic ardor, and with an eye single to the public weal, aid me in my arduous duties, *as did, Mr Van Buren & Eaton*, if not with the same talents. I *now know* both Van Buren & Calhoun—the first I know to be a pure republican who has laboured with an ey single to promote the best interest of his country, whilst the other, actuated alone by selfish ambition, has secretely employed all his talents in intrige & deception, to destroy them, & to disgrace my administration. They plot is unmasked, the unprincipled course of Duff Green has unfolded to public view, those intrigues with their objects, and Duff & Calhoun has politically destroyed themselves, never to rise again. Every one now stripped of his covering, will have to fight under his own colours, and not under the strength of others, and the people will judge them by their fruit.* Present me kindly to your amiable family and believe me your friend

Andrew Jackson

P.S. will you pay us a visit this spring with your amiable daughter—let me hear from you on the receipt of this—it always gives me pleasure to receive a line from you—*read the inclosed confidential note—I am much interested in the subject, I want strength in the Senate, of good men & true—not such men as Tazwell & Tyler who, at this day, has just discovered that the construction of the constitution by Washington jefferson Madison, and which his own father approved, given at the early period after its adoption, *is all wrong*, and this too at the nod of Mr Calhoon, to rouse virginia and prepare them for his Book, by which I was, with some of my administrators of the Government, to be prostrated; and ~~that~~ by which, he was to be announced by the virginia Legislature a candidate for the Presidency.[2] I *now* know Calhoun; you know the confidence I once had in him, & in his purity. I now believe him one of the greatest intriguers on earth—and the fullest of duplicity & deceipt. I know he will *lie*—and knowing this, I know he is fit for any act of human depravity, that his selfish ambition may sugest.* A. J

ALS, THi (17-1220).

1. AJ had appointed Samuel B. Marshall (1794–1845) to succeed Robert Purdy as marshal for the western district of Tennessee on April 8. Joseph Phillips (1784–1857) had been chief justice of the Illinois Supreme Court from 1818 to 1822 before returning to his native Tennessee. He was Purdy's brother-in-law and uncle of Purdy's son William P. Purdy (c1806–1847). Phillips had written to Coffee on Purdy's death that he would apply for the marshalship himself to serve young Purdy's interest and asked Coffee to recommend him (Coffee Papers, THi).

2. AJ had charged Tazewell and Tyler of leaguing with Calhoun against him in his March 24 letter to AJ Donelson (above). Tyler's father, John Tyler Sr. (1747–1813), had been a member of the Virginia ratifying convention and was later state governor and a federal district judge.

To Hardy Murfree Cryer

(Private & for your own eye)

Washington April 25th. 1831—

My Revd. friend

I have been gratified by the receipt of your esteemed favor of the 3rd. instant, and particularly for the friendly act of sending your son to the Hermitage, to make inquiry concerning the family, stock & farm, & communicating the result of the inquiry to me. This is truly, in my situation, the act of a friend, and I shall long, very long, cherish it, as such—was it not for your kindness, I should not hear whether the lonely house in the garden, which holds all my earthly treasure, was attended to or not. My faithful Hanah, who loved her mistress, I have confidence, will see to it.[1] I look forward with a longing desire when, if spared, I shall be permitted to return, & become its watchful sentinal until called hence, when I hope ~~I may~~ my body may be permitted to be placed & sleep beside that silent tomb, & my spirit unite with hers in the mansions of blessed.

I had received the intelligence of Genl Purdys death before your letter reached me, & had appointed Col Marshal of Nashville to fill the vacancy. Therefore, I can only say, that there is no man in whom I have greater confidence than Genl Martin—but there were many applicants, worthy men, & friends of mine, pressed upon me by numerous recommendations that until your letter placed Genl Martin before me I never thought of him, & the recommendations of Marshall was so strong, that at once I appointed him.

You will have seen from the public journals, that Mr Van Buren & my faithful Eaton tendered their resignations, which has lead to a reorganisation of my Cabinet proper.

The coalition combined with Duff Green Calhoun & Co, believed they had caught the Executive in such dificulty, from which they believed he could not extricate himself—judging from themselves they could not believe that any man possessed sufficient patriotism to retire from office for public good; and that I durst not remove those who were aiding my

opponents in their secrete intrigues against the administration, without turning the great State of Pennsylvania against it, they could not believe that Mr Van Buren could be drove from his situation, or that I would part from him & my friend Major Eaton. They knew how much I esteemed them both for their virtues, talents, & pure republican principles, and the others I durst not remove. How little corrupt & intriguing demagogues know of virtuous men—how illy they judged of Van Buren & Eaton, & how little they really knew of myself. Eaton & Van Buren tendered their resignations, the reasons assigned were such as every virtuous, & patriotic heart, must approve. When I came to the conclusion to accept ~~their resignations~~ them, at the same time, I came to the conclusion to reorganize my Cabinet proper and the whole coalition & combination were check mated, & prostrated by one single move on the political chest board—so you see that altho I have to part with two of the best men and purest patriots, the executive is free; & with the full expression of the public voce going on to reorganize his Cabinet, in doing which he will be careful to select men, over whom the intrigueing deceptious windings, of Mr Calhoun Duff Green & Co, can have no influence; and then I am safe—for I would rather contend against fifty open enemies, as one secrete deceptious professed friend, such as Duff Green & J. C. Calhoun. I *now* know them both, and I do not believe there are to be found any where, two greater intriguers, or men, ~~of greater~~ more devoid of principle. When men are found capable of lying, then they are capable of any act of depravity, that their selfish & ambitious views may suggest. I once had the most exalted opinion of Calhoun, I supposed him incapable of duplicity or any mean act. I repeat, I *now know him*, and believe him capable of any thing.

I sincerely regret to loose the aid of the high talents of Mr Van Buren, and Eaton, & their sterling integrity—they have both been faithful, laboured well, & with an eye single to the public good & the prosperity of my administration. I trust they will be rewarded by the approbation of a grateful country. I have invited judge White to fill the office vacated by the resignation of Major Eaton—if he accepts, there will be a vacancy in the Senate—there I want a good, & true man, in the place of White, not such as Tazwell & Tiler, who has found that the construction placed upon the constitution by Washington, Jefferson, Madison &c, approved by the elder Tazwell, & Genl Mason who then represented virginia, is all wrong.[2] The plan as ~~was schemed~~ they thought was well laid. Calhouns Book was printed, but witheld, until Genl Duff Green should be elected printer—in the mean time letters were written every where, & hundreds to the members of the Virginia Legislature, and Tazwell & Tyler come out against the Executive about the agents appointed to negotiate with the Port, and a dinner was getting up for the vice President at Richmond when the Legislature of virginia, it was believed & expected, would announce Calhoun for the Presidency. Tazwell & Tyler made their speeches, the

Book was published & Genl Green with all his eulogy ushered it before the public immediately after his election—the vice President hasted to Richmond, woing & coing with every member that would come into his embrace & lo, & behold, but 25 members could be got to subscribe to the dinner, & poor Calhouns Book fell still born, & he went without his dinner, and poor Duff, has politically cut his thoat, & Calhoun is prostrate, never to rise again. The plot was to take up Calhoun for President & Judge McLean for vice President. Whether an attempt may not now be made to unite with Clay & Webster, I cannot say. The late movement & reorganization of my Cabinet has frustrated all their organised plans.

If judge White comes into my Cabinet how much strength it would give me in the Senate, if the Legislature of Tennessee would give me Eaton there—he could give me much aid, and his patriotism displayed in the act of ing ought to draw from the State, some act of its approbation. I am sure Eaton will not offer for it—but the Legislature could do me no act that could aid me so much in my administration as this. I would still, ~~then~~ have both White, & his aid, all important to me in these days of corruption, and intrigue &c. If the Legislature was to take my situation into view, that I am only here for the public good, endeavouring to bring back the Government to what it was in the days of Jefferson, and warring with that *monster of corruption the United States Bank*, which if rechartered destroys our liberties, I am sure, they would give me th~~is~~e aid of Major Eaton. I write you in the spirit of a friend, & a republican, but my principles forbid me to lisp such a thing to the Legislature or any of its members.

I have had a laborious and I may add a disagreable time—but I look forward for better weather & a calmer sea—still the loss of Eaton & Van Buren I sincerely regret—tho, it was necessary, it was *their wish*, & I yielded to it.

I will have Edward Livingston in the State Department—Judge McLane minister at London, in the Treasury, Woodbury in the Navy. The attorney Genl as yet not selected, and my faithful friend Judge White in the Department of War. With these men for my aid, & Major Eaton in Whites place, in the Senate, with the directions & Smiles of an allwise providence, I think we will bring the national ship into a safe harbor

I have noted your remarks on the contest between Desha & Burton. If Burton continues his attitude, in the defensive, & acts with calmness & moderation, however severe, he may be, if decorous, he will prostrate Desha—and from what I see, Desha has already, & if he continues the contest in the prints, must do Gen Hall much injury. The idea if once taken up by the people, of a combination to hoist any man into office contrary to the will of the people will, destroy him. I am much Genl Halls friend, but from the Treatment that Burton has met with, I must say, I wish him success. From the course my young friend has taken by giving

Desha a certificate to injure his cousin, by detailing a friendly conversation between them, I condem much, & I have often told my connection that "A House divided against itself, cannot stand." I will thank you to keep me advised of this electioneering campaign.[3]

I regret you did not give me the pedigree of your young *[colt]*—If my oscar filly has not been put to the horse before this reaches you, I will accept your offer, altho, I had a great desire to have a colt from her from Bolivar, and if I cannot have him sold, or put out to a good stand in Tennessee, I shall have him brought into this country—but I want to keep him there, until his colts, from some thorough bred mares, come upon the Turf. I cannot believe, but he is one of the best blooded horses in america, & will get good runners. Therefore wanted a colt from him by the oscar filley.[4]

I must have three of my colts trained this fall. Will Mr Cotton train them I can find him a grown hand & perhaps two boys the [balance] he must find himself—see, consult Mr Cotton & write me. Major Donelson says the Pacolet filleys by Stockholder, and the oscars by Sir William are the finest colts he ever saw.[5] I will send my son out & by him a necklace to my dear little Rachel by whom I will write you. Present me kindly to Mrs Cryer and your family & believe me yr friend

Andrew Jackson

P.S. I want to sell of my Stock, in this, I wish your aid to my son, for which I will give you a percentage A. J

Major Lewis, Mr Earle & my son send their kind respects to you & family A. J.

ALS, ArU (17-1228).

1. Hermitage slave Hannah (b. c1801) was head of the household staff and had been Rachel Jackson's personal servant.

2. Tazewell's father, Henry Tazewell (1753–1799), and Stevens Thomson Mason (1760–1803) of Virginia served with AJ in the Senate in 1797–98.

3. AJ's friend was his nephew Daniel S. Donelson, who had lately given out accounts of a conversation he held with Robert M. Burton around the time of Robert Desha's election for Congress in 1829 over William Trousdale. As Donelson related it to Robert L. Caruthers on February 20, 1831, Burton had told him that he was pledged to support Trousdale and had voted for him but had done nothing to aid him against Desha—a declaration, said Donelson, which impressed "clearly upon my mind, that he had not acted in good faith to Majr. Trousdale" (Caruthers Papers, NcU).

4. AJ's horse Bolivar, sired by Oscar out of a Pacolet mare, stood at stud at the Hermitage in 1830 and again from March to July 1831.

5. Pacolet was a racer once owned by AJ. Sir William had stood at Cryer's stable. Horse trainer John Brown Cotton (1778–1849) was Cryer's uncle.

From Levi Woodbury

Portsmouth. (NH.) 27th. April. 1831.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your kind communication of the 21st. instant I cannot refrain from expressing my deep gratitude for the favourable estimate you have been pleased to make of my character.

Permit me to assure you, that while employed in any office under the selection of a Chief Magistrate, whose administration so fully meets my approbation, it will be my constant effort to show both him and the public, that his confidence has not been misplaced.

I accept the situation, which you offer me, of Secretary of the Navy, and will repair to Washington to enter on its duties, whenever in your opinion the public interests require my presence.

It will not be convenient to remove my family forthwith; but I shall hold myself in readiness to leave here at any time you may think proper to indicate. I remain, Sir, with great respect & regard, Your Ob. Ser. & friend

Levi Woodbury

[Endorsed by AJ:] recd. 1rst. of May 31 Levi Woodbury Esqr acceptance of the appointment Sec. of the Navy—answered this day requiring him to come on here so soon as his convenience will permit A. J

ALS, DLC (39). Copy, DLC-Blair Family Papers (mAJs). AJ replied on May 1 (below).

From John Coffee

Nashville 28th. April 1831

Dear Genl.

I come to this place ten days ago, and intended writing you sooner, but having my family with me we went up to the Old Ladies; and among the connection, and at the Hermitage, I did not return here untill yesterday, and last evening I went out to see Judge Overton & have just returned into town. I left home rather in a hurry to see Andrew Donelson & family before they would leave here for Washington, as it was understood they were going in this month, indeed our daughter Mary had been here some time, and had asked us leave to accompany her Aunt to the City, which had been agreed to, on condition of her & Mr. McLemores daughter going together, and after stoping a short time to see you, they were to go to Philadelphia to school untill next winter or Spring when one or both of us would go on & bring them by you, and on home &c. But when we reached here we find that Andrew and Emily had declined going, as I understand on account of you, and them, not agreeing in your views, as

to the proper course of conduct for them to pursue—this I regreted, as I had fondly hoped that all those things had been properly understood by Andrew before he left you—but which it seems he did not. I have talked fully and freely with him, he says that your letter bears a construction that would injure both him & wife, as well as yourself[1] I read your letter to him, it certainly breaths the spirit of friendship and kindness throughout, and I am confident that you could not be induced to require of them to do any act that would tarnish their reputation, this they are willing to admit chearfully that you would not knowingly do it, but under the excitement of feelings which has been aroused in you, they fear that you require more than they can consistently comply with, to wit, they understand you to mean, that Emily must become the intimate and social friendly visitor of Mrs. Eaton, which they think under all past circumstances would be degrading to them—they acknowledge their readiness to act as you wish them to do, at all times, and with all company that shall visit your house by your invitation or permission, that they will at all times, and all places where they meet with Mrs. E. treat her politely and respectfully—this is what they are willing to do, and I believe this is all you want them to do, as I think I understood you so, when we conversed on this subject last summer. Andrew declares a willingness to render you any aid or assistance in his power now and at all times consistently with his views of propriety and he speaks with deep regret and concern of your being left at the present moment without suitable assistance, in the drugery of your business, and that is an other source of uneasiness with me, for there are so few men of suitable qualifications, to fill that place who are confidential, that I fear the employment of one who is not well known, and well tried, and in that Andrew has advantages that are possessed by very few I believe his sence of honor is excelled by no man although he may differ in opinion with you, yet he is confidential and will not disclose what is intended by you to be known only by you and him, or any other person, he also has more knowledge of your business, and of your views generally than any other person. And above all I hope he has a proper feeling towards you, with all these reflections I feel mortified, nay I feel humiliated, at the idea of his leaving you under any circumstances whatever, you have reared him with parental affections, and he aught never to seperate from you. I still have a gleam of hope that he may remain with you, and I would not urge it, if I did not believe you wished him to remain with you, and that he would be useful to you. I hope my dear Genl. what I have said on this subject, will be received by you, in the same spirit, which I offer it, and if so I am sure no harm will have been done. I know your capability to meet all emergencies be them ever so difficult, and in this case as in all others, your can determine what aught to be done.

I have mentioned before that we had visited the Hermitage. Mr. Steel politely requested me to go over and look at the farm stock &c. &c. and give him my opinion and advice on any thing I might think proper to

suggest to him. I did so; and I found his farm in good order, and the stock in better condition than any ~~which~~ that, I have seen this spring—your Colts are in good growing order all doing well, and your horse Boliver is in fine condition, I think Dinwiddie has done him full justice.[2] Your mechanics ~~was~~ were at work on the improvement making on the mansion house, I took the liberty of suggesting some immaterial alterations in the addition, which was approved of, by the projetor of the building who said he would consult you about it, I mention it now, that you may not be surprised at the suggestion when you see it[3]—most of the family had met at Mrs. Donelsons to greet us on our arrival with them, where I proposed to Polley and her sisters to visit the Hermitage, which they chearfully agreed to. We went over and spent half the day, and dined. Mr Steel was kind and provided an excellnt dinner—the ladies visited the tomb of their beloved, and departed Aunt—and, asked Mr. Steel to open her ward robe, which he done, and they opened and looked at the Robes which they had so often seen their dear Aunt clothed in, that it revived goneby times and feelings, and filled us all with mingled grief and Joy—grief to know that she who was beloved and idolised by all who knew her and more particularly her relatives, was now no more—and Joy to see the robes and Jewelry which she usually wore when mixing with us in social life in this world—but above all that she is now enjoying that bliss, which is provided for the just and righteous, and which will have no end, and where we all one day hope to Join her in immortality. My dear Genl. this was a visit of great interest to us all, and we left it with mingled feelings.

I long to see you once more seated down in quiet at the Hermitage, to pass the remaining time that may be left you, in the bosom of your old friends, clear of the labour and toil of public life. I have no doubt but you will enjoy it as the happiest close of this eathly abode. I have seen with regret the attempt made by Mr. Calhoon to turn the attention of public opinion from the real object of your call on him, to entirely a different subject and thereby involve you in an angry contest, whereby you might be injured, but could not be benefited, I was very much gratified to see the with which you acted towards him, by stoping short the correspondence, as soon as you obtained the object sought for. And I hope you will preserve that course on that subject, and not let any thing which may be said or done about it in any manner, or by any person whatever, induce you to take any steps on that business at this time—there is a time for all things, and this is not the proper time to notice any thing appertaining to that subject. Calhoon has killed himself, never to raise again politically—and for God's sake don't give him or his partisans, or your enemies any possible cause to say that you have taken any further notice of that affair in any manner whatever—he is dead politically, and let rest in quiet. You must serve out a second term, and before that runs out things will take a natural course, and I think there will be no difficulty in electing a suitable successor to you, and one who will carry on and compleat the great

National works which you will have begun—this is all we shall want, and all we care for. I noticed in your letter to Andrew that you remark a paper has been shewn to you which implicates others in this Calhoon business, who were not heretofore known to have taken part in it—and so soon as you could ascertain the facts, you would take suitable steps to remove all double dealers from about you—all this may be right at some future time, but I hope you will indulge me in suggesting the propriety, and necessity to defer it for the present. I must think that such a step at this moment will be hazardous in the extreme, I fear it would be ruinous, it would enable your opponants to raise such a cism, that the shock could not be borne, there are many who profess to be friendly to you now, who will turn against you, when ever a pretext offer for them to do so, no doubt many of the Cahoonites would be of that number—at all events the thing had better be postponed for the present.

Since I come here I have recd. a communication from the Secretary of War, informing me that the department had not received any communication whatever from the Agents who accompanied the delegations of the Choctaw & Chickasaw Indians west of the Missi., save only a letter which they wrote me in Feby. and which I enclosed to him. At this information I am astonished, for so soon as Col. Reynolds returned home and rested a few days, he come over to Florence to see me, he then informed me, that himself and Col. Geo. S Gaines had sent on their report to the Secty of War from Little Rock as soon as they reached that place on their return home, he put into my hands a rough sketch of the Country which they had examined including a sketch of all the Country alloted to the various tribes of Indians—with request that I would have it made out in a more plain and intelligeable manner to be sent on to the Secty of War. My draftsman was then from home which prevented it being done at the time, but shortly thereafter Col. Reynolds come over again, and the sketch was made out and I sent it to Major Eaton with sundry remarks of Col. Reynolds, and my own. I suppose that it had not reached him when he wrote me the letter I mentioned before, but I feel confident it must have reached him very shortly after, and which would give him all the information that Col. Reynolds possessed on the subject. Major Eaton has suggested to me his views on that business. I will write him from this place, and will attend to the business.[4] Our friends are all well. I beg you my dear Genl. to excuse this long scrawl, and accept of my best wishes for your health and happiness.

Jno. Coffee

ALS, DLC (39). AJ replied on May 13 (below).

1. This was AJ's March 24 letter to Donelson (above).

2. The slave Dunwoody (c1770–c1845), purchased to accompany the horse Truxton in 1806, trained AJ's racing stock.

3. AJ had hired Nashville architect David Morison (or Morrison) to renovate and expand the Hermitage. He wrote AJ on December 6 (below).

4. George Strother Gaines (1784–1873), brother of Edmund P. Gaines, had escorted the Choctaw exploring party which met up in the west with the Chickasaw party escorted by Benjamin F. Reynolds. Reynolds and Gaines wrote Eaton from Washington, Arkansas, on January 29, 1831, describing the territory and the hopeful prospects for reaching agreement for the Chickasaws either to buy land from the Choctaws or to settle among them. They wrote again from Little Rock on February 7, proposing logistical arrangements for removing the Choctaws (*SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess.: vol. 2, pp. 401–3, Serial 245; vol. 1, pp. 673–75, Serial 244). Eaton wrote Coffee privately on March 30, complaining that he had not heard from Reynolds on the resolution of the Chickasaws' situation (Coffee Papers, THi). He wrote Coffee again officially the next day, March 31, proposing inducements to get the Choctaws and Chickasaws to agree (*SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 273–75, Serial 245). Meanwhile, Reynolds wrote Eaton on March 27, reporting the Chickasaws' reluctance either to accept the separate domicile proposed for them or to merge with the Choctaws (DNA-RG 75, M234-136). Coffee apparently wrote Eaton on April 29. Eaton replied on May 16, acknowledging that letter and the receipt since March 31 of the earlier map and report from Reynolds and Gaines (*HRDoc* 171, 22d Cong., 1st sess., pp. 61–62, Serial 219). The Chickasaw chiefs addressed AJ on May 28 (below).

To Hugh Lawson White

(Confidential)

Washington April 29th. 1831—

My Dr Sir

your letters of the 18th. & 20th. are just recd. Your determination expressed in yours of the 20th. has filled me with pain, and I beg of you most seriously, to reconsider it. The public confidence you possess in a most eminent degree. This is every thing to the administration. your talents are as good as I wish them; you are well acquainted with our Indian affairs, which is the most important branch of the War Department; and no one I could get, is half so well qualified in this particular as yourself—as for the mere arrangement of the military branch, you have whatever aid I can afford, and also the aid of Genl McComb, whose long experience in the military department, will render that part of your duties easy.[1] Your knowledge of law, & your own talents & acquirements, will render the place easy to you.

Had I time to bring to your view the circumstances with which I am surrounded, the necessity, from actual experience, of having men round me in whom I can confide, and particularly, one to whom I can freely, on all occasions, unbosom myself, I am sure you would yield to my wishes.

The great principles of democracy which we have both at heart to see restored to the Federal Government, cannot be accomplished unless a united cabinet, who, will labour to this end. The struggle against the rechartering of the United States Bank are to be met, the corrupting influence of the Bank upon the morals of the people, & the members of Congress, are to be met, & fearlessly met; Duff Green has violated his pledge on this subject, & is nutralised. Many who you would not have supposed, has secretely enlisted in its ranks, and between Bank men,

Nulifiers, and internal improvement men, it is hard to get a Cabinet who will unite with me heart & hand, in the great task of democratic reform, in the administration of our Government. In this work, if possible the Cabinet must be united, or the executive whilst labouring to effect it, some one of his Cabinet may be secretely labouring with congress to prevent it from being carried into effect.

As it respects your domestic concerns that, can be arranged so, that you can visit it once every year—and one of the two succeeding years I will agree to accompany you, or at least take you up on my return & travel with you to this place. To be candid I cannot do without you for the two next years. If you should become wearied by that time, then I will, if continued here, agree to spare you—but if you should now decline, you derange all my well laid plans. I ask ?who can I get to fill the war office? I could probbly get Col Drayton, who may be in favor of rechartering the Bank—he it is true is acquainted with military matters but unacquainted with Indian ~~matters~~ affairs & whose appointment would arouse half of So Carolina against me—and let it be remembered, that he has been a *strong Federalist. I like the man, but I fear his politics.*[2] Having taken judge Mc.Lane (London) for secretary of the Treasury, I do not want to be compelled to take another Federalist. your refusal at present would produce and throw around me a laberinth of dificulties from which, it would be hard, very hard indeed, to extricate myself. I will just add, if it had not been that I expected to obtain your aid, or Major Eatons, I never would have permitted myself to have been here. I trust therefore, you will reconsider this matter, and answer me speedily, that you will accept. I will be more than happy to have you under my roof, in the same House with myself, and you have no friend who will not say you ought to yield to my request. ¿What sacrafice do I make, & have I made, to be here at the solicitations of my friends, because it was thought I could benefit my country; and what sacrafice I am still making to the request of my friends, & of my Country. I hope, & trust, you will not hesitate to make the sacrafice I solicit. In great haste I am very respectfully yr sincere friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, NjP (17-1264). AL draft, DLC (39); Bassett, 4:271–72. AJ wrote again on June 1 (below).

1. Army commander Alexander Macomb. At this point in the draft, AJ wrote and excised: "next to the Indian you will find the Pension office the most troublesome—but the various precedents of record & construction of the law with the long experience of the Office at the head of the Pension office will render that easy."

2. South Carolina congressman William Drayton was an outspoken critic of nullification. Van Buren had perhaps shown AJ a letter Edward Livingston wrote him on April 20. Livingston urged appointing Drayton if White declined, as "the military service in all its branches suffers materially from the want of practical military knowledge in the head" (Livingston Papers, NjP). In 1816 AJ had himself urged incoming president James Monroe to appoint Drayton Secretary of War "to exterminate that *Monster* called Party spirit." AJ

argued that Drayton's putative Federalism counted nothing against his exalted patriotism, valor, and talents: "such a man as this, it matter not what he is called, will always act like a true American" (*Jackson Papers*, 4:75, 70).

From Spencer Darwin Pettis

Washington
April 1831

Sir

I beg leave to submit for your consideration a proposition made by Lieut Reuben Holmes of the Army who is desirous of exploring that part of our territory beyond the Rocky Mountains. You will see from the enclosed letter & estimates what he desires on the part of the govt.

He wishes to go as the agent of the govt. but not as Lieut. of the army, and desires that the govt. will authorize him so to do, and furnish means according to estimates No. 1. or 2. The first is prefered. If neither of these plans be sanctioned then he simply asks for a furlough for two years to go on his own responsibility. His object is to explore the country, take observations of the various importants points—examine the situation of the country its fertility it various resources the number & situation of the Indians, the state of the Fur trade there and the situation plans & movements of the English & Russian colonies & settlements which are supposed to be within our territorial limits. It is very important in my opinion that this should be done. The British are absolutely *colonizing* the country. This appears by a letter from J. Pilcher Esq. to Maj. Eaton last fall.[1] We know very little of the country; the latitude of certains points has not been correctly ascertained, nor do we know where the line between us & the British & Russian colonies is.[2] Some negotiation must soon be had on these subjects and we should first possess ourselves of all the proper information The longer the question of territorial lines is left open the greater will be the difficulty of settling it. The British are in fact *fortifying* themselves there, not against the Indians only, but against every nation. They are building regular forts, &c.

Lieut. R. Holmes is most admirably calculated for this service. He is a man of fine talents enterprizing, well educated in the sciences and is well informed on all subjects. He is brave & energetic intelligent & well suited to the accomplishment of any high & important object. His heart is much set upon this expedition, and thinks he can render important services to his country. No man is more patriotic than he is.

If the government can furnish him with $2,345— and permit him to go in any character the President may choose he is ready to make the effort. If this be refused he asks for $895.00. This first is desired, but I have laid before you all the estimates.

If this can be allowed by the govt. without an act of Congress and I think it can I would request your favorable consideration of the project. The expedition of Lewis & Clark I believe was authorized without an act of Congress & this could be done at a trifling expense compared with that[3] Could it not be paid out of the contingencies of the Indian Department or out of that of the war department? It would seem to fall within either, And as it relates to ~~the settlement of a~~ information necessary to the adjustment of our territorial lines with foreign powers it might be done under a different head.

Be pleased to cause an answer to be forwarded me thro one of the Departments as early as practicable. Mr. Holmes would start at short notice. I refrained from submitting a proposition for this object to Congress for fear its publicity might lead to obstructions which might be thrown in the way by the British traders & colonists. These persons have now nearly the whole fur trade of our western regions, and they gathering strength every day on our territory & preparing the minds of the Indians to oppose it. I would be glad that the Secretary of War would communicate with Lieut. R. Homles at St Louis on the subject the correspondence may be confidential if desired. The utmost confidence may be placed in Lieut Holmes. And the character of the expedition can be such as the govt may desire[.] I am Sir with great respect Your Obdt Servt

Sp: Pettis

ALS, KyLoF (17-1032). Army lieutenant Reuben Holmes (1798–1833) had been stationed at Jefferson Barracks near St. Louis since 1827. On February 3, 1832, Secretary of War Cass wrote Holmes's commanding officer, Henry Atkinson, declining support for his expedition (DNA-RG 107, M6-13). The expedition was never made.

1. Fur trader Joshua Pilcher (1790–1843), later Indian superintendent at St. Louis, had sent Eaton a lengthy report warning of British domination in the interior Northwest. British traders had established a preemptive presence on the Columbia River and spread their operations "over the whole region west of the Rocky mountains, quite to the Mexican territory." AJ had included Pilcher's letter in a January 24 report to the Senate on the state of the Columbia fur trade (*SDoc* 39, 21st Cong., 2d sess., pp. 7–21, Serial 203).

2. By a convention of 1818, extended in 1827, the U.S. and Britain had agreed that the region west of the Rockies to which both countries laid claim should for the time being remain "free and open" to the "Vessels, Citizens, and Subjects" of both (*Treaties*, 2:660). In 1824 the U.S. and Russia concluded a convention drawing their boundary on the Pacific coast at 54°40' north latitude.

3. To finance the 1804–1806 exploring expedition to the Pacific led by Meriwether Lewis (1774–1809) and William Clark, President Jefferson in 1803 requested and received a congressional appropriation of $2,500 "for the purpose of extending the external commerce of the United States" (Richardson, 1:354; *Statutes*, 2:206).

May

To Levi Woodbury

Washington May 1rst. 1831

Dr. Sir,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of ~~the~~ your letter of the 27th. ult. inswer to mine of the 21rst. I am happy to find that the appointment of Secretary of the Navy which I had tendered to you, is accepted, and ~~it~~, that you will repair hither to enter on its duties whenever, in my opinion, the public ~~duties~~ interests may require your presence.

Govr. Branch is anxious to leave this as ~~early~~ soon as his services can be dispensed with. I have therefore, to request your presence here at as early a day as your convenience will permit; arrangements hereafter can be made for bringing on your family[.] I am, Sir, with great respect, your, friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS draft, DLC (39).

To William W. Gray

Washington May 2nd. 1831—

Dr Sir

yours of the 29th ult. together with the pot of ointment you were good anough to send me, has been received. For this evidence of your kindness, & regard for my health, I beg you to accept my sincere thanks. I will, with much pleasure, make an experiment with the ointment, which from the accompanying testimonial of its efficacy, I doubt not, will prove highly beneficial.

I herewith return, agreable to your request, the letter you enclosed me, and am with great respect yr mo obdt. servant,

Andrew Jackson

ALS, TNJ (17-1271). William W. Gray had been selling a cure-all ointment since 1820. His son William F. Gray carried on the business, and the Nashville firm of W. F. Gray & Co. continued to sell "Gray's Ointment" into the twentieth century, using versions of this letter

in advertising. A Department of Agriculture chemical analysis in 1920 concluded that Gray's Ointment "consisted essentially of linseed oil, lead soap, lead acetate, turpentine, and wax."

This letter came into possession of Confederate president Jefferson Davis, and was among the personal effects seized on his arrest in 1865 and returned to him by the War Department in 1874.

To Peter Worthington Spicer

Washington May 2nd. 1831—

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your polite invitation to dine at Tammeny Hall on the 12th. instant in celebration of your 42nd anniversary.

Nothing could afford me greater gratification than to participate with that ancient, and honorable society of Republicans, on such an occasion. But the present press of official duties, with the previous determination taken, not to accept of any public entertain- during my continuance in office, is the apology I have to offer for declining the honor confered upon me.

With a tender to you, & thro' you, to every member composing the committee, of my best wishes for their individual happiness, I am, Sir, with high consideration & respect yr obdt. servt.

Andrew Jackson

ALS, NNMus (17-1272). *Morning Courier and New-York Enquirer*, May 14, 1831; *Niles*, May 28. Spicer (1793–1833) was a New York City merchant. Incorporated in 1789, the Society of St. Tammany was a political club which had long been the preserve of the city's Republican and Democratic party. A reported four hundred people attended the May 12 ceremonial dinner at "the Wigwam," Tammany's headquarters, including Governor Enos T. Throop of New York and Michigan Territory governor Lewis Cass. Martin Van Buren and Edward Livingston, like AJ, were invited and sent regrets.

From John Coffee

Nashville 3rd. May 1831—

My dear Genl.

The last three days have been full of interest here—we have accounts, although unofficial of the voluntary resignation of all your Cabinet, except Mr. Barry, and that you will appoint a new Cabinet alltogether of different men—we hail this as a triumph over your newly avowed political enemies—whilst it proves the innocence of those who have been so grossly assailed, it also proves their patriotism by willingly yielding their own interest, for the public good. The same accounts which announce the dissolution of the Cabinet, inform us who are to be the new men

appointed to their places, although it would seem strange that the newspapers, and those of the enemy too, should know your secret intentions, yet the men named seem to possess so great a fitness for the places designated for them, that it seems probable they may be your choice, so far as I know them either personally or by character, I believe I would prefer them to any others, although others may do as well perhaps in part, but One at least (Judge White) I prefer to all others—indeed I like them all—no one has been named to fill the place of Mr. Berrien—and therefore I think it would be desireable to continue one of your Cabinet from North Carolina, I would suggest the name of Mr. Badger—his reputation as a man of talents, and legal knowledge is inferior to no man—indeed none of his age (say about 35 as I learn) is scarcely his equal.[1] If he has popularity enough in his own state, to support him, I think his reputation in the other states would justify the apptmt. This independant and bold step, is only in accordance with your whole life, that in times of great emergency, you never shrink from your duty or from a proper responsibility. Such of your old Cabinet who desire it, I hope you will provide for in a suitable way, so as to make some reparation for the sacrafice they have made. With very profound respect Dr Genl. your Obt. Sevt.

Jno. Coffee

[Endorsed by William B. Lewis:] Genl. John Coffee Recd. 16: May 1831.

[Endorsed by AJ:] answd. 26th.

ALS, DLC (39). AJ replied on May 26 (below).

1. North Carolina lawyer George Edmund Badger (1795–1866) was briefly secretary of the Navy in 1841 and later a U.S. senator.

From James Alexander Hamilton

New York, May 3, 1831.

My Dear Sir:

I wrote a very hasty letter to you on Saturday. Sunday and Monday I could not write as I intended, because I could not see Rhind. Yesterday evening I received the inclosed note from him, and to-day have seen him. He has agreed to give an order to the Messrs. Howland's to pay over to me the balance of the proceeds of the sale of the horses after deducting expenses, to be held subject to your order; thus in effect doing all that could be wished. The Marshal, it is agreed, is to attend at and coöperate in the sale. I drafted the order on the Howland's for him, which he has taken to submit to his counsel, and to bring it to me in Court whither I am about to go. I will send a copy of it with an official letter to Van Buren to-day, if I have time; if not, to-morrow. I have written fully to Van Buren

and Lewis my views in relation to recent changes, and have expressed to the latter the pain I have felt in consequence of the reserve which has been observed toward me on the occasion. I fear that on this occasion you have not sufficiently appreciated the disinterested devotion I feel toward you, and which I am capable of exercising when circumstances require it. I will only add that your choice of a Cabinet is most excellent. I doubt a little about the Navy, for the reasons I have given Van Buren.[1] With the truest attachment,

Your friend always, &c.

Printed, *Reminiscences of James A. Hamilton*, p. 216 (17-1274). The New York merchant firm of Gardiner Greene Howland (1787–1851) and Samuel Shaw Howland (1790–1853) had custody of the four Arabian horses and had paid for their shipping and upkeep. This day, Rhind directed them to cooperate with the U.S. marshal in selling the horses and to turn over the proceeds, minus expenses, to Hamilton for the government. Hamilton wrote AJ later this same day informing him of this. He also warned that Rhind would sail with Henry Eckford and had joined his plan to sell warships to Turkey, making it important that the *John Adams* get there before them. The horses were auctioned on May 14 for $1,990, which fell short of expenses (Hamilton *Reminiscences*, pp. 216–19; DNA-RG 59, M179-70).

1. Hamilton had complained to both Van Buren and William B. Lewis of his mortification at not being forewarned of the Cabinet change, leaving him "to learn it in the streets" with everyone else. Van Buren wrote Hamilton on April 25 apologizing and explaining his silence. Hamilton replied on May 1. He hailed Van Buren's resignation as a political masterstroke but voiced "great doubts" about Woodbury, who brought no political strength to the administration and whose loyalty against Calhoun was deeply suspect. In Hamilton's memoir, he surmised that Van Buren had deliberately kept him ignorant lest he complicate the formation of a new Cabinet by claiming the place in it for himself that AJ had once promised him (Hamilton *Reminiscences*, p. 212–15).

To Andrew Jackson Donelson

Washington May 5th. 1831—

My Dear Andrew

Your letter of the 18th ult. in answer to mine of the 24th. of March has been this morning recd. and I hasten, in friendship, and with frankness, to reply to it. Mine was written to you in confidence, & with the feelings of a father & a friend, ~~and~~ having in review, ~~before me,~~ all the disagreable scenes I have experienced here, from the intrigues of deceiptful, but professing friends, who contrary to my admonitions, had operated upon part of my family, & whose councils had alienated you, & your family, from my old & well tried friends who, were *necessary to my* aid, in the dificult task I had to perform & where those very men, had been instrumental in placing me; & because I would not bring into my Cabinet men to suit the views of the *arch intriguer under the rose*, my friends were to be drove from my Cabinet; put into coventry by my family, and drove from me; & some out of society, who, if they had been subservient to *Mr Calhouns views*, ~~who now appears to have been the secrete mover of the wire,~~

would have been *hailed* as worthy of their *situations*, & of all society. It was with a view, as your sincere friend, to open *your eyes to these things*, and plainly to set before you the imposibity of a family so discordant, in its feelings, in its friendships, and its views, of men, matter, & things, and divided, in these things, against itself, could not stand—could not here continue together in harmony & Credit. Surrounded therefore, as I found myself with deception, & treachery, with the exception of my old friends, it required for my own credit, and that of my family, that unity of feeling, action, & harmony should exist between ~~us,~~ ~~me and~~ my family, & real friends; as well, as with my Cabinet, to enable me to counteract the deep laid plans in congress by the combination to destroy the usefulness, & credit of my administrations. This being the case it was necessary for me, in candor, to bring the whole case to your view ~~to prevent me from the destruction intended by the pitt dug for me, & in which I was expected to fall, and which I had a hope, the view I had presented, would have fully brought to your view,~~ and that all things considered you would with pleasure have united with me, & my old friends in harmony & friendship to aid in guarding me against, ~~that~~ the trap ~~might be shunned~~ that was laid for me.

Could it be otherwise than supposed, that some of my Cabinet were, ~~not~~ (to say the least of it) countenancing the intrigues in Congress to elevate some of the Cabinet, whilst the whole Bateries of the combination wielded by Calhoun, were employed in assailing others—who could but see acquiescence in the attack made on the Postmaster General, and *particularly*, in that by *Tazwell & Tyler*, wherin one senator pledges himself that Mr Berrien & Ingham, could not be consenting, whilst Tiler pledges himself, that Govr. Branch could not—whilst all their batteries were levelled against the others to destroy them, & degrade me.[1] These Heads of Depts, shielded by these declarations, have been all silent, when every body knows that the Secretary of the Navy was, & must have been made acquainted with it, as through his Dept. the funds from England ~~was~~ were drew, & placed in the hands of the Navy agent at Giberalter, subject to the draft of the agents.[2] These movements were all seen by me, & subsequent events have fully explained them. Under these circumstances, it became necessary that, not only my Cabinet, but my family should be ~~a~~ *Units*, and I therefore unfolded to you my situation, & my feelings, with the frankness of a father, & ~~real friend. I~~ admonished you with the feelings of a true friend, in hopes my council might be adhered to & bring you back to your ancient friends, & to me. Upon a full view of the *whole case*, & the relative situation you & myself were placed I had strong hopes it would be so. The regard I had for you & your dear little family compelled me to this course. I regret your answer—*nay*, *I deeply regret it*, because I see in it, *a deep rooted hatred*, against my long, old, & undeviating friends, and which were your friends; and a high encomium on your new friends—some of whom you had better have been more fully aware of their polit-

ical course, before you stood pledged, as godfather, for their political purity. Yes, I see you denounce Major Lewis, (in the epithet & language, of that unprincipled tool of one of the most hypocritical & intriguing men on earth) and I am sure from all his actions & expressions of you, and your family, has been your constant friend—¿and why do you denounce Lewis & Co, as a set of intriguers¿, it can only be, because he has been my long & undeviating friend, & that of my Dr departed wife; and I am sure, there is no man of truth that will say that he has ever acted by word or deed unfriendly to you, & your family—I have no doubt, he has with me, sincerely regretted your course, & that of your family, when he knew I had so often admonished you to a different one, and when he, with myself, & all your real friends foresaw, the evils that must grow out of it—~~and~~ whilst all my enemies, under the garb of your friends, were admonishing you, that *feelings of honor, & independence forbad you to yield to my advice, & requests*. you have adopted theirs. Be it so; may your new friends be as true to you, as I have, & as Lewis and Co have been to me—but if I am a judge of human nature, you will find, if ever you are in need of their friendship, (when you cannot serve them) they will all be reported *absent without leave*. Lewis & Co (as you stile them) have been working as patriots with an eye single to the prosperity of my administration, whilst others, my dear Andrew who was ~~discarded~~ cherished by you; would destroy me, to promote Calhouns fame, and who, would cast you by, the moment you were unable to serve them, and wanted their assistance. I ask you, ¿is it possible, you can believe that a family, with such discordant feelings which ~~have been~~ as has been realised, and which appears from your letter, to be so firmly rooted in your breast, could live harmoniously together here—can it be conceived that I am so lost to justice, to what is due to friendship, and those who has so disinterestedly laboured with me for the public good, & the prosperity of my administration, that I would permit them to be treated with coolness, contempt, & disrespect, whilst others hostile to me, the devoted tools of a man that I *now* know *capable* of any intrigue and duplicity, that a depraved mind, coupled with selfish views, can sugest—and this treatment carried to such an extent that every eye saw, & wondered at it, and why I permitted it—nothing short of that real filial regard I had for you, & your dear little family, permitted it, and the time will come when you will expel from your mind the delusions you have been under, and with amasement, & wonder, exclaim, ¿is it possible that I deserted the friend of my father, the protector of my youth, and who would have been the willing father & protector of me, & my family, in my riper years, under the falacies practised by that deceiptful intriguer, surrounded by his Judases—such as Daniel of K.y. & Co,[3] working their female Gossips by the wires of intrigue to the destruction of my father & friend, ~~by~~ endeavouring to destroy~~ing~~ his friends, & removing them from my confidence, to the destruction of the usefulness of his administration, to impose upon the

republic, such a *knave*; I had like to have said *villain*—yes my dear Andrew, these things you will see, and feel when the film drops from your eyes which I hope will be soon; ~~and~~ That you may see ~~him~~ Mr Calhoun in his true colours, I send you the Globe—read it calmly & ~~reflectingly~~ with reflection, the comment it contains ~~of~~ on his Book, ~~it~~ is a true picture drawn by a master hand, of his duplicity, & want of principle—in due time, when I get my papers, I have the means of giving it a compleat finish—such is the man, and such his deciples, that has alienated you from me, has poisoned your mind against my old, & well tried friends. Let me assure you once more that such men as Eaton, is rare to be met with on this earth. Van Buren has been faithful, & is a pure republican, whose talents & virtues at some day, will be duly appreciated by his country. Lewis has been your friend, & undeviatingly so, and the friend of your dear aunt & mine without guile—all your real friends here, have regretted your course and none more than Lewis & myself. I ask you calmly to reflect—could it be possible, that you or any other of my friends or acquaintances could think so meanly of me, as to believe, that I could give up the controle of my Houshold, and see my old & well tried friends treated with coldness, neglect, & contempt, and those new friends, covered with grease, that some of their duplicity could not be concealed from the most careless observer, *carressed*, and treated with *all respect*—surely such a degrading situation could not be calculated upon, that I would even with all my attachments ~~could~~ to you, & your family, ~~I would~~ submit to such a state of degradation; I could not submit. I sincerely regret to find that your views are so different ~~to~~ from mine. Whatever you may think, one thing I know, I have never degraded myself by keeping bad company, nor have I ever been degraded in the opinion of the virtuous & the good. I never have deserted a friend without cause, nor never will, as long as his acts ~~is~~ were pure & upright—and altho, you think it would have been degrading to you, to have yielded to my admonitions, I have only to add that taking a review of my whole course, with regard to you, and others, I have nothing to regret on my part. I will, & must regret the course, you and your dear family have pursued as it respects myself, & friends, but still, my friendship or solicitude for your welfare, will not be withdrawn—you have made your election; I repeat, I sincerely regret the one you have made. But my prayers will be that you may find as true & faithful friends, as you found in me, & in mine; I hope your new friends may not abandon you, when their interests may induce them; ~~and that~~ I fear this will be the case with many, the moment they find you cannot serve them, ~~is to be feared,~~ as it is so common in depraved human nature. I have practised thro' life on the golden rule "never to part with old & well tried friends, for new ones," and I trust you will admit I have got thus far through life pretty well; and my dear Andrew I recommend ~~it~~ this rule to you, for your adoption.

you say you have laboured for me two years faithfully; I understand this to mean your manuel labour, which I acknowledge, and admit its

importance—But my dear Andrew, this was not what I most wanted. I wanted your association of friendship & feelings with that of my true friends. I wanted that cheerful council & harmony of action, that makes friendship valuable, & society desirable, not your manuel labour in the day, & your society with uncongeniel souls in the evening, that were distilling the poison of detraction in your ears, & that of your family, and alienating your affections from me, & my true friends—in short to make me happy I wanted you, & your family to harmonise with me, & my friends, extending equal comity to all the heads of Departments, & their families, & to all who were visitors—then we would have been cordial & happy, & put all ~~my~~ our enemies at defience, but with such discordant feelings, friendship, and attachments as appears to have existed, we could not expect to prosper—again I repeat the adage is true, "that a House divided cannot stand." a few words more and I will close for the present.

I must refer to your remarks on my letter as it regards the letter of Genl Krepps. I used those remarks, *hypothetically*, as connected with the written narative refered to. This narative I have—it at once exposed to my view the great dificulty Mr. Bell had in getting the Indian Bill thro', the conduct of many members of congress, & laid open to my view ~~the~~ various intrigues that had been practiced, gave a key to the attack to Tazwell & Tyler; then the election of Duff Green before the Book was Issued to the public; the intrigue with the virginia Legislature, the proposed Calhoun Dinner at Richmond, & the contemplated announciation, by that body, of Calhoun for the Presidency &c &c &c.[4] But the fidelity & Patriotism of the people, prostrated the whole scheme, with Duff Green & Calhoun, as all intrigues aught. Surely you have found no direct charge in my letter against Mr Branch or Berrien, unless it be infered from my relation of the attack of Tazwell & Tyler, and the exemption & pledge of those Senators, "that those three, had no knowledge of the appointment of the agents to treat with the Port, nor did they sanction the measure." This tho, not true, was permitted to remain to this day, without contradiction by them, & only set right, by Mr Forsyths speech[5]—now the inference is Strong, that these senators must have had hints, from some source, and if from the heads of the Departments, here is a corroborating proof, that whosover gave the hint, was labouring to destroy Mr Van Buren, & injure my administration to benefit the combination against *Van Buren & myself, & those other heads strongly attached to me*, all of whom were labouring with an eye single to the prosperity of the country, & credit of my administration. These are they men that you alone eulogise, whilst you are charging the others, as intriguers, under the epithet of Lewis & Co. When this fact is compared to the narrative, should you live to see it, you will find I am not credulous, or jealous, & when the fact is known, that the funds passed through the secretary of the Navy. One thing is certain, here were Senators pledging themselves to facts, exonerating on part of the Cabinet, & charging home on the others, things with a view to their

injury & my degradation. It is for these Gentlemen to explain these things, not for me. I have a right to look at them, & judge of them—it shew plainly that the cabinet was not a unit, or so considered by congress. The fact was, the combination & coalition believed they had got me in the trap set for me, & that I could not extricate myself; my cabinet was divided, & I could not, nay durst not, remove those who had become the favorites of the virginia senators, because they were also the favorites of Pennsylvania, and covered by the wand of Calhoun, who with Duff Green thought they could raise up & destroy empires, or make & unmake Presidents at will. They had forgot, I had a few Patriots around me, and when thus situated, I was never long in dificulty. The result you have seen. The Patriotism of Van Buren and Eaton triumphed over the love of office, & they resigned, & thus, with one move on the Political chess board, the whole combination, & coalition were checkmated, & Duff Green & Calhoun prostrated forever. The whole union approves the measure, & there is perfect tranquity throout the ~~union~~ land, except now & then, a dying *Groan*, from Duff Green & Co.

I will here on this point stop, for I am sure you will not believe that Daniel of K.y. could be a judas, or Calhoun & Co base men, be it so. I now know them, and I have only one more caution for you, & particularly your brother Daniel, which I submit in pure friendship, receive it for what it is worth, it is valuable, if rightly appreciated. I hear with regret, that Genl Desha has applied to your brother Daniel for, and he has given Desha a certificate in the affair of Burton—now in all times, & in all ages, no credit can be obtained by one branch of a family, aiding strangers, to destroy the character, or standing of another branch, & be assured, *Daniel* will derive no credit from this thing. Martha is a favorite daughter of William, to whom I know every branch of the family owes much to his memory for his attention to them & the estate; where gratitude exists, to his memory ~~it~~ this is due—again, If Genl Desha had possessed any friendship for Daniel, or Delicacy, he would not have asked from ~~Daniel~~ him a certificate in the case, & when asked, Daniel ought to have refused, & if after that, ~~if~~ Desha had required it, a due respect for himself, & his own character, ought to have induced him to have knocked him down. Genl Desha must have known the great impropriety of introducing Daniels name in his quarrel with his cousin. I leave you to reflect on these things, I never knew any thing but disgrace to a family, where it united with strangers to disgrace its own kindred.[6]

I shall send Andrew on in a few days for my papers, when I will again write you. You must excuse this blotted *scrall*

I had a hope when my friends coerced me into the situation I now hold, that ~~my friends~~ they would adhere to me until I retired, and I would have had your aid as part of my family until providence permitted me to retire to the Hermitage, or took me hence. In this I am disappointed, because my friends & associates cannot be yours—be it so, you have choosen;

& my energy has been ~~as yet~~ hitherto equal to every emergency that has occurred to me, in my eventful life. I trust in providence it will be so now. I have always trusted in him, & he has hitherto not forsaken me. I am laboured almost to death & have been a good deal afflicted; but will try amonghst strangers to get a man who will aid me, & who will think it no disgrace to associate *with me*, *& my friends*. I will try tomorrow to get Mr Trist, & when I get my new cabinet, I will have them *a unit*, & they must remain so, leaving the people to elect their President, *& we*, with an eye single to the public good, execute our duties.[7] Now in conclusion my dear Andrew, I hope in god you may find in your new acquired friends, that faithfulness I have found in my old friends, which you seem so much to despise. I look at them as jewels too precious to be parted from, may you have cause upon *well founded experience*, to think as much of yours. May every blessing attend you & your dear little family thro life, altho I may not be able to forget some things, still, my friendship, now so little regarded, will not be withdrawn, it may still be needful—and when you and your dear family have fulfilled your pilgrimage here below, may you all have a happy immortality thro the attonement of our blessed redeemer. Present me affectionately to Emily & the dear little ones, to Mary Easten, & the good old lady, & every branch of the connection, & as usual I subscribe myself your affectionate Uncle

Andrew Jackson

P.S. I keep no copy, or have I time to correct this. A. J
P.S. I have authorised Mr Lew Jones to draw upon me for the amount of the purchase you ordered of negroes, & the expence of sending them to your direction A. J

☞ If you have any debts here that Andrew does not know of, let it be known, & with pleasure it will be paid A. J

[Endorsed by Donelson:] This letter was recd. on the 9th. of July 1831, on my return home from Washington

ALS, DLC-Donelson Papers (17-1281).

1. On December 15, 1830, the Senate had voted to appoint a special committee to investigate "the entire management" of the Post Office Department. Calhoun, as Senate president, appointed a five-man committee headed by opposition senator John M. Clayton of Delaware. On March 3, 1831, the last day of the session, Clayton reported the information the committee had gathered so far (*SDoc* 73, 21st Cong., 2d sess., Serial 204). In debate over the committee's charge and powers, and later over its report, senators charged Postmaster General Barry with profligacy, corruption, abuse of patronage, forgery, and fraud (*Register of Debates*, 21st Cong., 2d sess., pp. 4–8, 86–120, 149–79, 181–203, 335–43).

In his February 22 speech on the appropriation for the Turkish mission, Tazewell observed that four Cabinet members (Van Buren, Eaton, Branch, and Berrien) had been in the Senate in 1825–26 and had, with himself, opposed President Adams's acceptance of an invitation to send delegates to the Panama Congress as an act of executive usurpation. They therefore knew that AJ was wrong to send commissioners to Turkey without Senate consent

and had a "bounden duty" to tell him so. In his February 24 speech, Tyler absolved Branch of having "any agency in advising this mission to Constantinople. I do not believe that he could be guilty of an inconsistency so gross and palpable" (*Register of Debates*, 21st Cong., 2d sess., pp. 238, 262).

2. AJ had instructed Branch to this effect on September 12, 1829 (*Jackson Papers*, 7:427–28).

3. Henry Daniel (1786–1873) was a Kentucky congressman.

4. Tennessee congressman John Bell (1797–1869) had chaired the House Indian Affairs Committee and sponsored the removal bill.

5. In a Senate speech on February 25, John Forsyth of Georgia questioned why Tazewell had left Ingham off his list of culpable Cabinet advisors, and observed that Branch, far from being ignorant of the Turkish mission, was the only one besides Van Buren who must certainly have known of it, since his Department had advanced its expenses (*Register of Debates*, 21st Cong., 2d sess., pp. 296–97).

6. Robert M. Burton's wife was Martha H. Donelson Burton (1809–1873), daughter of Rachel Jackson's late brother William Donelson (1758–1820) and first cousin of AJ Donelson and his brother Daniel S. Donelson.

7. Nicholas Philip Trist (1800–1874) was a State Department clerk.

From William Carroll

[This letter is available only in typescript.]

Nashville May 6th 1831.

Dear General,

I have thought it probable that Mr. Van Buren would be run for the Vice Presidency. Should this be the fact I should be glad to know it as early as convenient from some sourse. We should have no difficulty in carrying him through in Tennessee, altho there are many high in Office, who profess great friendship for you, who would oppose his elevation and promote that of Mr. Calhoun. I cannot however see how the latter gentleman can permit his name to be used in a third election. It would be in opposition to the practice that has been adhered to ever since the organisation of the government.[1] Mr. Calhoun cannot be so silly as to allow his friends to bring him out for the Presidency at the next election. They surely cannot with certainty calculate on any one state. Indeed, my impressions are that you will in the end have no opposition. The success of the Clay party in Kentucky at the August elections is not only doubtful but improbable. Should he fail at home his future prospects are completely cut off. If he succeeds in Kentucky a struggle may be made in his behalf. But your support is to be found in the great body of the American people, who remember with gratitude what you have done for your country, and who in the pursuit of their various occupations are almost unconcious of the political feuds that distract and divide intriguing politicians. When the day of trial comes on however you will find them your friends and supporters. Indeed I have always considered that the surest guarantee for the durability of

our republican institutions, is in the disinterested patriotism of the honest yeomancy of our Country. Your friend,

Wm. Carroll.

Typed copy, DLC (73).

1. Calhoun was now in his second term as vice president, having served under Adams before AJ. No man had yet sought or served a third term as president or vice president.

To William Berkeley Lewis

Washington May 7th. 1831

Dear Major

yours of the 5th. from Baltimore was received yesterday. I have not seen Mr Thornton, but am much gratified to learn that the appointment of Mr Woodbury is gratifying to Mr Hill—this will unite all friends in New Hampshire—all things appear to be progressing well *every where*—and I have no doubt but, the next congress will be more harmonious than the two last.[1] The electioneering demagogues will *now* ~~to~~ have to appear unmasked, & female caucuses to foster & cherish feuds between the families of the heads of Departments, will cease, and my whole Cabinet will be a~~n~~ Unit.

Having answered my young friends A.J.D.s letter, my mind is calm, and I will now look only to the great interests of my country, & leave those disagreable subjects in oblivion for time to heal. It has been a source of great disquietude to me, and I am sure, upon cool reflection must be to every one of my connections & their advisers, when the delusions under which they have acted, are dispelled.

My son will set out on the 15th for the Hermitage via Philadelphia I wish him to see you & Mary Ann on his way, & carry your commands with him to Nashville & perform any friendly act for you there, in his power.[2] Where will you be on the 16th. and 17th. instant, ¿will you be in the City of P., or on your way home—advise me by the return mail, as I wish Andrew to see you. If you have left the City, where will Mary Ann be at—

Mr Earle & Andrew unite with me in respects to you & Mary & beleve me yr friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, NNPM; Copy, NN (17-1308).

1. Isaac Hill (1789–1851) of New Hampshire had been appointed second comptroller of the Treasury by AJ in 1829. He was rejected by the Senate in April 1830, and then elected to replace Woodbury in the next Senate by the New Hampshire legislature in June. James Bonaparte Thornton (1800–1838), also of New Hampshire, was appointed by AJ to succeed Hill as second comptroller in May 1830.

2. Mary Ann Lewis (c1814–1866) was Lewis's daughter.

From Alfred Balch

Franklin May 7th. 1831—

Dear Sir,

We have heard here of the resignation of the members of your Cabinet with some surprize But we are satisfied with the event as matters could not have remained much longer in the situation in which they have stood for some time past. For my own part I consider the blow that has been struck to be one of the most effectual ever felt in the political history of our Govt.

The Vice President has fallen into the snare in which it was his design to entangle others. The act of Van Buren is considered here as highly patriotic and as giving evidence of his warm personal attachment to you.

I may be pardoned now for speaking on a subject with reference to which I have felt myself bound to perserve heretofore a fastidious delicacy. The family relations of Major Eaton have been since his marriage a subject of great annoyance to your real friends on account of the attacks of the opposition upon him and the grumbling of some of your professing friends.

It may be presumed that he will throw himself and family on the bosom of our society & remain with us for a *season* at least & until these temporary excitements shall have passed away. Being out of power envy & party malice will seize on some other victims. If in fact Eaton shall return here with his family, I for one shall feel that the moment has arrived for me, in my humble way, to act and so far as I & mine are concerned his relations & those of his family to that society to which I belong & of which they may become members shall be fixed on the fairest most lofty & honorable footing. Others will be found & not a few, of the best blood of the country, who will act on the same principles.

You may expect a heavy opposition—there will be in your case as there are in the experience of most men, traitors to their professions. But still, there will be enough of true & loyal friends. Very respectfuly

A Balch

ALS, DLC (39).

From Charles Richard Vaughan

Having received permission to return home on account of the state of my health, I wait upon you, Mr President, to take my leave.

I beg permission on this occasion, to express my perfect satisfaction with the cordial & conciliatory spirit in which the political relations between the United States & Gt Britain have been conducted, while the

councils of this country have been under your controul. I trust that the ties of kindred which bind together our respective nations, will never be disturbed, but that the good feeling which now so happily subsists between them will be carefully cultivated, for their mutual interests & their mutual prosperity.

I am under obligations to you for great personal attentions & for the urbanity & hospitality which has invariably marked my social intercourse with you. I assure you, Sir, that I shall leave the United States with a most profound respect, ~~for you,~~ and sincere personal esteem & regard for you.

It remains for me to present to you Mr Bankhead, who will from this day become His Britannic Majesty's chargé d'affaires.[1]

AD, DLC (40; 17-1321). AD draft, DLC (40; 17-1323); AD draft, UkOxU-AS (mAJs); Copy, UkLPR (17-1325). Vaughan (1774–1849), who had been British minister to the U.S. since 1825, took formal leave at the White House on May 9. He returned to serve as minister from 1833 to 1835.

1. Charles Bankhead (c1797–1870) had been secretary of the British legation since 1826. William IV (1765–1837) was King of Great Britain.

To Charles Richard Vaughan

I regret Sir, that the pleasure of returning to your country & friends should be lessened by the unfavourable state of your health, and sincerely hope for its speedy & complete restoration.

Of the favourable impressions which I have derived from my personal intercourse with you, official, as well as social, I cannot express myself too strongly. I part with you with regret, and with sentiments of very high regard.

It gives me pleasure to find that you have seen the evidence of a cordial & conciliatory spirit in the deportment of this government towards that of Great Britain; and I beg you, to make yours sensible, of the confidence with which it may rely, on the continuance of that spirit on my part. The estimate which you place on its importance to the prosperity of both nations, is a just one; and it gives me great satisfaction to witness the daily progress which this sentiment is making, as well in England, as in the United States. Deeply impressed with it myself, I shall not fail to exercise the power with which I am intrusted by my fellow Citizens, in the way best calculated to preserve, and improve, the friendly relations at present existing between the two countries; and from the experience I have already had, of the disposition of your Government, I do not doubt its cordial co-operation.

I pray you Sir, to be, near your sovereign, the interpreter of these sentiments, and to accept my sincere wishes for your safe return to your home, and for your individual welfare.

I take pleasure in receiving Mr. Bankhead, who is already favourably known to me, as his Brittanic Majesty's chargé d'affaires

AD, UkOxU-AS (mAJs). AD draft, DLC (40; 17-1330); Copy, UkLPR (17-1333).

Memorandum on Giacomo Raggi

The case of Raggi—he appears to have been the lowest bidder, a competant artist in one branch, that of a Sculptor. The question then is—can he give good & responsible security for executing the contract agreable to the plan presented by the Navy Board, and made known in the advertisement. If he is, and responsible security is tendered by him, he is entitled to the contract. But before ~~any advances are made to him,~~ entering on the contract, good security ought to be had for his faithful execution of the work in a faithful manner and with the skill of an experienced architect.

[Endorsed by AJ:] The case of Riggi—The contract awarded to him on his giving good & responsible security for faithful execution of the work in a stile of an experiened artist.

AN, DLC (59; 37-0281). Giacomo Raggi (b. c1774) had emigrated from Italy in 1819. A law of March 2, 1831, had appropriated $2,100 "for re-building and removing the monument erected in the navy yard at Washington, by the officers of the American navy, to the memory of those who fell in battle in the Tripolitan war" (*Statutes*, 4:462). The monument, erected in 1808 and consisting of a column surrounded by four figures, was to be repaired, rebuilt on a new base, and removed to the west front of the Capitol. The Board of Navy Commissioners, composed of three senior officers appointed by the president, had charge of naval procurement. On April 6 the Board advertised for the monument work, with bids due April 15. Raggi submitted the low bid of $1,500 and offered written references from Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and the Emperor Napoleon; but the Board refused him the contract, splitting it among several other bidders. Raggi complained to John Branch, and on April 30 Board president John Rodgers wrote Branch justifying the refusal. Rodgers explained that Raggi was "comparatively a stranger" of unknown competence, and at best an "ornamental sculptor" suited to repair the statuary but lacking the skills of "an architect, stone cutter & practical mason" required for the remaining work. His bid was also suspiciously low, as the Board sought quality, not cheapness (DNA-RG 45). On May 9, evidently subsequent to this memorandum, Branch wrote Raggi at AJ's direction that the Board would award him the contract upon his "giving security for the execution of the work in a faithful manner" (DNA-RG 45, M209-7). The monument now stands at the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md.

To Hardy Murfree Cryer

Washington May 10th. 1831—

My Revd. friend.

I have recd. & read your private letter of the 11th. ultimo with pleasure, & regret—pleasure to hear that you & your family were enjoying usual good health, & providence was smiling upon, & blessing you with plenty—regret to see in what a ridiculous situation my young friend & placed himself by giving a voluntary certificate unfolding a private conversation with his cousin to aid a stranger in an angry quarrel with his relation—which if he thereby injures his cousin, it must lessen him in the eyes of the world—but it is sure to lessen Daniel in the eyes of all high minded honorable men, regardless of the effect it can produce on Mr Burton

The course taken by A. J. Donelson & Daniel have filled me with much & sincere regret—but as they have interfered so improperly to injure Burton, I hope Burton may succeed, altho I have every good feeling for Genl Hall.

You will find from all the papers that the patriotic step taken by Mr Van Buren, & Eaton, are approved by all republicans, whilst the *old* coalition, as well as the new, are astounded, confounded, & dismayed, & *perfectly prostrated*, *all their plans destroyed*. If my family, & professed friends, had remained faithful to me, and the great interest of their country, instead of falling into the trap of the great intriguer Mr. Calhoun, how much better for them, and gratifying to me. They have decided, & withdrawn from me. I rest upon providence, and the good sense of the people for my support—and I am sure it is the best. The only thing to be regretted, is, I am thrown upon strangers, who I have to rely, instead of those I took great pains in educating that they might be a comfort & aid to me, in my declining years. I have hitherto had sufficient energy to pass thro, any, & every dificulty that presented, & I still trust that a kind providence will not forsake me, in the *severst trouble*.

My son will leave me on the 15th. instant. he will call & see you, I will give him a memorandom as it regards the disposition of my stock, which I will thank you to give him your advice.

I will thank you to write, & inform me, what effect the certificate of Danl Donelson has produced on the public mind, & how stands the canvass, &c &c &c.

Present me kindly to your amiable lady & family & believe me your friend

Andrew Jackson

P. S. have no time to write to a friend excuse my haste

ALS, THi (17-1338).

To Mary Ann Eastin

(Private)

Washington May 10th. 1831—

Dear Mary

Finding from a letter lately received from Major Donelson, that he is not returning here, my son will set out in a few days for *home*, (delightful sound) to arrange some business there for me. I have directed him to hand you a favorite ring of your dear Aunts, with the picture of Washington, it was highly esteemed by her, as such, I present it to you, wear it for her sake, & for mine.

How often have I admonished without avail my connections that a House divided against itself cannot stand. From the Deep rooted hatred expressed by Major A. J. Donelson against my old & faithful friends, admonishes me, that his views, friendships, feelings, & attachments, are so discordant with mine, that we cannot harmonise—he calls my friends, with indignant feelings "Lewis & Co," in which I suppose he means to include all those who proved faithful to me, & would not aid *Calhoun & Co*, in widening the pit prepared for me; These are the men long tried in friendship by me, found to be jewels of great price, ~~to me,~~ with whom I hope to live as long as I am permitted to breath, in friendship. These are those, with whom he cannot associate in friendship, & extend to them the same comity, as part of my family, as he does to his new acquired friends, therefore withdraws from me. Be it so—he says he has gone home, delightful sound, how grateful to my ear, where, as he cannot associate with my associates, & friends; (and as I never wish to interfere with the friendship of others) I wish him, & his dear family, all the happiness this world can bestow—but I think I have a right to exclaim with the psamist, 41, 9th. "yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me."[1] May his new friends and associates prove as true to him, as my old ones have to me, & to him, and he will *find in them a treasure—old friends*, never ought to be changed, for new. The course of A. J. D and E, has been a source of great disquietude to me—you know, how often I brought to their view the old, but valuable adage "that a House divided against itself cannot stand." My admonitions it appears have proved unavailing—and how I regret to see Daniel Donelson arayed in a voluntary certificate against the husband of a favorite daughter of his deceased uncle, to whom, every branch of the family owe a debt of gratitude for his parental care of them, and the estate. It matters not whether the certificate injures Burton or not, it is sure to injure Daniel—social conversations, never ought to be revealed, but social conversations between relations, never ought to be the subject of a certificate, for the benefit of a stranger, in an angry dispute with a relation. I therefore sincerely regret to see Daniel Donelson placing himself in this situation, which will injure him in the end, more than Mr Burton.

You no doubt will be astonished at the change of my Cabinet. a few words will explain. It is well known to you, that they members of it, came in with the utmost harmony good feeling & friendship, but from some cause to me then unknown, but now well understood, that harmony ceased, and because I would not in the first instance bring round me such men as would become subservient tools to Mr Calhoun & his ambitious views, there has been a constant secrete intrigue carried on to athwart all my recommendations & views, & prostrate every one, & every thing that interfered with this their object—hence Major Eaton being my confidential friend, was to be sent out of it, & disgraced, the more easy to destroy Mr Van Buren, and render me less popular with the nation. Into these secrete plans, entered, many of my professed, but hypocritical friends—& hence arose the great animosity pretendly against Eaton, but really against me, to foster Calhouns views, (a man who I *now* know can with a face of friendship smile, when he holds the secrete & poisoned poinard, to stab you to the heart). I was found too stubborn to be bent to their views, Eaton, I would not abandon; Then, other plans were resorted to—~~that~~ the first was to prevent congress from carrying into effect any thing I had recommended; & the second Mr Van Buren to be prostrated—every secrete intrigue to this end, & to bring Calhoun in as President at the end of 4 years was resorted to—every thing was prepared in the utmost secrecy. Calhouns Book was printed, but retained for Duff Greens election—in the mean time, Tazwell & Tyler the better to insure success of the plan makes the attack upon Van Buren and myself, Tazwell vouches, that Berrien and Ingham, could not have been assenting to the appointment of the agents to the Port, & Tyler, that Govr. Branch could not. This was not true however, still it was not contradicted by any, until Major Forsyth speech was made, that placed the facts fairly before the nation; but before this, the effect of the attack was had—letters were written to every part of the country, & every exertion was made to get up a dinner for the vice President at Richmond, & to prepare the Legislature of virginia to announce Mr Calhoun a candidate for the Presidency. Green was elected printer with the full exertions of Mr Van Buren & myself; The Book was instantly published with explanatory notes. Calhoun repaired to Richmond to eat the Dinner, & be proclaimed president ~~& to eat the dinner~~. Mr. Calhoun was attended by a few, who are *now* known, as part of the judases of the day. But lo, & behold, the dinner was not served, the Legislature, with all the influence of the Governor, could not be wielded to these views, and Mr Calhoun & Duff Green, are perfectly nullified by their own intrigues & want of principle. Mr. Van Buren was constantly assailed, the Cabinet was divided, and him & Eaton soaring above the sordid, selfish, feelings of office, but prompted by that pure patriotism that only accepts office, to be useful to their country, that harmony might prevail in the administration, determined to resign. To part with these men, who had laboured with so much zeal & ability, to aid me in placing

my administration on the highest ground, & with an eye single to the prosperity of the country, was a trying case to me. The reasons offered were so substantial & sound, that I was obliged to subscribe to them, & agreed to accept their resignation, but at the same time to reorganise my whole Cabinet proper. They had all come in, in harmony, and it was due to all, that they should go out together, and this was due to the harmony of the administration, and to the country. You see, altho, the old coalition, combined with the new, (Duff Green Calhoun & Co) altho, they believed they had got me in great dificulty, how easy the virtuous & dienterested patriotism, of two high minded honorable men, who soar above sordid & selfish views, when the benefit of their country requires the sacrafice, by one move upon the political chest board, *checkmated* the whole combination & coalition—and destroyed their whole plans. How different the conduct of Van Buren and Eaton compared to that of Calhoun—the latter intriguing & combining with every one who he thinks can aid his views, putting on as many colours in his political maneuvres as the comelian to get into office—whilst the others pursue the dignified course of true patriotism. These men will meet the reward & approbation of the good, whilst a virtuous ~~republic~~ people must frown with indignation, ~~of~~ at the mean, & low intrigues of the other—and stil, these are the men that I must abandon, that my family cannot associate with, whilst Calhoun & his satelites are hugged to their boosom, and I am ~~abandoned~~ forsaken. Such men I never can forsake, for unprincipled demagogues. If my family had adhered to me, what a brilliant & peaceful administration I would have had, and how much delight with them. But it is different. Be it so. ~~and~~ I hope, I still have energy anough to buoy me up throughout all & every dificulty that may surround me—and that an allwise providence, will continue to protect, & guide me through life. I have confidence my new cabinet will be a unit. I will make it so; and I will endeavour to get a private secretary that will be faithful & true, and aid me in carry out those great principles, upon which I have based my administration ~~upon~~, and on which, I believe, the durability of the republic depends.

When I commenced, I only intended to write you a short note, but my thoughts wandered, & hastened me on into a dish of politics, not suited to a female taste—but as it is for your own eye, not to become the subject of a certificate for publication, I send it, without correction as the sudden impulse of the moment.

will you write me whether you have ever recd. the dress I sent by Daniel for you, I would have sent you another, but really as I had heard nothing of that, I forbore. Give my respects to your Grandmother & all my friends and connection, kiss little Jackson, & the two Rachels for me & believe me yr friend

Andrew Jackson

P.S. Is your Uncle Coffee & Mary, and your Uncle McLamore and his Mary coming on, I would be happy to see them, & you with them. Present my compliments (affectionately) to them their Ladies & families. Nothing would give me more pleasure than to see them & you here. Say to your Uncle McLamore I would like to hear how he is getting on with his business. A. J.

ALS, Anonymous (mAJs). *Historic Madison*, pp. 406–10 (17-1341). Eastin replied on June 12 (below).

1. Psalms 41:9.

From John Branch

Navy Department
May 12th 1831

Sir,

Business of a nature which forbids its neglect, or delay, requires me to leave Washington City this evening, and of course I shall not have it in my power to continue my attentions to the Navy Department after the present day.

I deem it my duty Sir, to give you this information that you may designate some person to take charge of the Dept. & to prevent any delay in the transactions of its important official concerns[.] I have the honor to be Your Obt.

Jno Branch

[Endorsed by AJ:] The Secretary of the Navy, Mr Branch retires from office to day 12th May 1831 Mr J. Boyle appointed to do the duty until Mr Woodbury arrives & takes charge of it. A. J. to be placed on file

ALS, DLC (39). LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). AJ appointed John Boyle acting Secretary this same day. Woodbury reached Washington on May 22 and received his commission and began work May 23.

To John Coffee

(Private)

Washington May 13th. 1831—

My dear Genl

I have this moment received you letter of the 28th. ultimo. The friendly terms in which it is written at the present moment & under existing circumstances is truly grateful to me. The course pursued by Andrew towards me & my old & well tried friends, has given me much pain. I

wrote him with the feelings of a parent to bring to his view the necessity of unity of feeling & of friendship, between us all, from the hidden & deceptious course which had been practised, by the secrete agents of Calhoun from the commencement of my administration, & which had recently developed itself—for it is a truth that my old and real friends, were shunned by him, & the friends of Calhoun & my secrete enemies, were his constant associates, until my friends could not help noticing it, and speaking to me upon the subject—it was not Eaton & his family that were shunned, but Major Barry & his, and all others who were good and true friends were in a great degree shunned, whilst those of my bitterest enemies, were his constant & nightly associates. Seeing & feeling those things, & having determined to renew my Cabinet, the moment that the disinterested patriotism of Eaton & Van Buren suggested their intention, (for the quiett & prosperity of my administration) to offer their resignations, I wrote Andrew my full views & feelings, bringing to his consideration the necessity of his & his family extending to all the heads of Depts & families whoever they might be, the same comity and attention, & to make my friends, and associates his. ¿What is his answer? a vindictive philippic, against my friends by the epithet of "William B. Lewis & Co"—and that he cannot decend to the degradation of associating with Mrs. Eaton. Hence it is, that to have his society, & that of his dear little family, all my old friends must be abandoned by me, & his new ones, Mr Ingham, Branch Berrien, Daniel, Desha, Calhoun Duff Green & Co, substituted in their stead—and there never were greater Judass. than *some* of them. I Love Andrew & his family; But my Dear Genl, the course taken against Eaton, was not only to Destroy him, but me. It was expected to destroy me, & the credulity of Andrew operated upon, *by old adapts at intrigue*, has got him into the unpleasant situation with regard to my self, that now exists. His services were important to me, and I fear, its was thought so important, that I could not do without it, as it was also thought, that I dust not change my Cabinet, because if I did, I would arouse good old Pennsylvania, & North Carolina, & Georgia, against me.

Poor vain mortals—how much man appreciates his own merits, more than they peopl do. I have changed my Cabinet, & strengthened my administration thereby, and Van Buren & Eaton, by the pure patriotism displayed in resigning office for public good, must raise them high in the estimation of every virtuous patriot. ¿What a contrast! Calhoun has been practising every art, in mean, & low intrigue, to exalt himself to office, whilst Eaton, & Van Buren who has been labouring with me, with an eye single to the prosperity of my administration, & the national good, resigns office, to prevent the embarrassments that the administration might be involved by the intrigues carried on with Congress, to raise part of my Cabinet & prostrate others, by which it was thought I would be prostrated, & Calhoun exalted. But they had not common sense anough to foresee the consequences; they had forgot, that fortune always accom-

panies the good & brave, and that they might by a judicious move be thrown into the pitt dug for me—one move of these good men Eaton & Van Buren has checkmated the whole combination, & coalition, raised, and strengthened the administration, and as you observe, has prostrated Calhoun never to rise again. You know the confidence I once had in him; it is gone forever. I believe him now one of the bases, & most dangerous men living—a man, devoid of principle, & would sacrafice his friend, his country, & forsake his god, for selfish personal ambition—he is *fallen*, & there for the present, I will leave him, but in due time, I will give the finish to the picture drawn of him, in the Georgia journal—it is drew, by the hand of a master, and to the life—you will see it in the Globe.[1] I have recd. a letter from Andrew, I will answer it kindly—altho his philippic against Lewis & Co, has been keenly felt by me, and altho, I will never abandon my old friends; still, I will bear with Andrew, I will not withdraw my friendship from him, and when I get rid ~~of~~ here of, *the old combination of Gossips*—slanderers, ~~&~~ hypocrites, & false friends then, I will be happy to see him & his dear family here, when our feelings & friendships ~~are~~ must be more accordant with each others, and when we can extend to all equal commity. My Dr Genl, how much I have been coroded; my counsil, and admonitions treated with contempt, intimations that I kept disgraceful company, that my Nephew & niece could not decend to, without disgrace—& lastly, that I must abandon all my old friends, Wm B. Lewis & Co, or Andrew could not be of my family—never had they, and I am sure I never had, a truer friend than William B. Lewis—he has laboured well, to counteract the plans of my destroyers—and he two, must be abandoned to make room for those who was fondling on Andrew, endeavouring to wean him & his family from me, & who lastly obtained their object; whilst Lewis & Co, as he stiles my old friends, were, with me, only regretting Andrew and Emilys course, and ~~regretting~~ fearing the injurious results that must follow.

Whenever Andrew & Emily~~'s feelings~~ can harmonise with ~~mine~~ me in friendship, & feelings, & in views, then we can be happy together, & when, I will be happy to see them here again. Andrew was, & would have been of great use to me with those cordial feelings that I had a right to expect from him, but until that is the case, the old adage is true, that a House divided against itself cannot stand. How I regret to see Daniel Donelson brought before the public by a certificate against his cousin to endeavour to injure the Husband of a favorite daughter of his old uncle, to whom every branch of the family are bound by the strongest ties of gratitude. If injury accrues to Burton ~~why~~ it reflects upon himself as part of the family, and have what effect on Burton it may, it will injure Daniel in the eys of all honorable men, in becoming a voluntary certifier of a private & social conversation with his cousin.

There is something wrong. Why or wherefore Danl. should do these things I cannot tell—nor why & wherefore I should become the subject of

abuse by Col George Smith, I cannot immagin; but so it is—and I assure you, these things will injure them, more than it will me.

I have just engaged Mr Trist to aid me as private secretary—looking forward to a period when Andrew & Emily can return to their first love, when I get clear of the deleterious effects of those false friends, & intriguing politicians, that poisoned their minds, & destroyed my quiet & happiness.

You will have recd. my letter on the change of my Cabinet[2]—all is well over the whole Union, as far as is heard from. The effort on virginia was great, but has failed to produce that effect, calculated upon by Tazwell & Tiler, aided by the influence of the Governor of Virginia, who is, really, a William P. Anderson, in principle, & a full cousin—all, all, their intrigue has failed & recoiled on the head of the projectors, and the only injury done, is, the alienation of Andrew & Emily from me.[3] I hope Eaton, (if White accepts the office of Sec. of War) may be sent to the Senate, there I am weakened by the defection of Tazwell, & Tiler, & taking Livingston from it, and Calhoun will operate on all he can, and in Poindexter, there is no confidence to be placed. Therefore you see, that such a faithful friend as Eaton, with his standing there, would be of great benefit.

I feel greatly indebted to you and your amiable family, with the rest of my connection, for the visit you made to the Hermitage. There rests my thoughts, when disengaged from the constant business with which I am surrounded—could I with honor, & a duty I owe my country, I would fly to it, there to bury myself, from the corruption & treachery of this wicked world; where the wicked never cease troubling, & where the weary can have no rest—but this to me is denied, ~~to me,~~ and I must submit. How strange the versitility of human nature. How many of my ardent friends Laboured to place me here; the moment I was, and made a cabinet for the public good alone, because I had taken, Eaton, a well tried & trusty friend, alltogether necessary to me, and to the principles on which I was selected by the people, I am abandoned by many, & my family, because Major Eaton could not be made a tool to promote Calhouns views, and that I would not become subservient to his nulification Doctrine, & use my influence to bring him into the Presidential chair they have raised their heels against me. I hope in god, that such an unprincipled man may never sit in it—but this is for the people, not me to decide, and I hope they will decide it as they aught, for their own prosperity, and perpetuation of their liberties.

O, how I regret, that you & your amiable daughter with Andrew Mary Eastin, Mr McLamore and daughter did not come on; what pleasure it would have given me to have seen you all here. My situation here from the course taken by Andrew & Emily has been more than an unplesant one, his associations has done me great injury, & really was drawing from me some of my sincere friends, & upon him & myself, the jelousy of others,

for with the exception of Mr Bell, his associates were entirely of those hostile to my administration, & to my real friends. This was necessary to be changed, or I might have found myself between two stools. Therefore my letter was written, & with the feelings of a true friendship that he might reflect on the folly & injurious effects of his course & return to me, to aid me, not in labour alone, for this, tho important I could do without, but in his friendship, his council, & social intercourse His answer is an unpleasant one to me, & vindictive to my friends, from whom I never can be seperated from *without cause*.~~—and~~ The course him & Daniel is taking in the quarrel between Desha & Burton, is very improper—a more unprincipled man than Desha, they will find in the end, they never confided in, and he will on the first slight cause, be amonghst the first, to hold up Daniel to ridicule for giving a voluntary certificate of a private & social conversation with his cousin. Had not Genl Desha been without principle, he would as an honorable man cautioned Daniel against the act, as calculated to injure him in society, for no one can justify the act of divulging a social conversation with any one, still worse to injure his own family. This has mortified me much—and to put Daniel on his guard, whilst he was here, I shew him both Caruthers letter, & Burtons—both of which, shews Desha capable of falshood, & when a man is capable of that, he is capable of any thing.[4]

My son will leave me on the 15th. for Tennessee, I have directed him to visit you, & your family, ~~to transact~~ after transacting some business for me, ~~he~~ will return with my papers—not that I mean yet, to write a Book, but to be prepared to finish the picture. I would delight to see you, my Love to your family, believe me your friend

Andrew Jackson

[Endorsed by Coffee:] Answered on the 30th. May 1831—

ALS, THi (17-1359).

1. On May 4 the *Globe* reprinted from the *Georgia Journal* a review of the published Seminole correspondence by "A. B." The *Globe* praised the piece as "able and luminous," identified its author as "a personal friend" of Crawford's, and said it "no doubt has received his sanction." The review defended Crawford while excoriating Calhoun.

2. April 24, above.

3. William Preston Anderson (1774–1831) had been AJ's onetime friend and comrade in arms. The two fell out some time after the War of 1812 and later quarreled explosively during the 1828 campaign. In October 1828, Anderson wrote a public letter to AJ calling him "irritable, overbearing and tyrannical," "miserably deficient in principle," and willing to put down enemies by means "fair or foul, honorable or dishonorable" (*Jackson Papers*, 6:518–19). John Floyd's grandmother was Anderson's mother by her second marriage.

4. Robert Looney Caruthers (1800–1882) was a Lebanon, Tenn., lawyer and a friend of Robert M. Burton. In 1830 he and Burton had written AJ about a speech Desha made in Gallatin in which he accused AJ of turning against him over the Eaton affair, a charge that AJ said was a lie (*Jackson Papers*, 8:561–62, 608–10, 638–39).

To Andrew Jackson Jr.

[Jackson probably gave Andrew Jr. this memorandum on May 14, when he also wrote him a check for $600. Andrew Jr. left for Philadelphia and Tennessee that day or the next.]

A memorandom for A. Jackson junr.

The letter with your mothers miniature you will deliver to Major Lewis to have put in a Gold frame, with the hair in the back. This I want done in a plane but elegant manner. If you have time, you ~~can~~ will go with the Major & Mary Ann, and aid in selecting it. I hand you twenty dollars, which, if you cannot remain to have the frame finished, you will hand over to Major Lewis, to pay for setting the miniature. This attended to, you will purchase two necklaces, of a good quality, the one for Rachel, Jackson, Hume, daughter of the Revd. Mr Hume, the other for Rachel, Jackson, Cryer, Daughter of the Revd. Mr Cryer; and deliver them in my name to these two little girls, as a memento of my dear wife, for whom they were called; get Mary Ann Lewis, to aid you in the choice.[1]

I have recd. a letter from your cousin A. J. Donelson, informing me, that Mr James Saunders told him, that Capt Mosely had borrowed $2000 from the Bank of the U. States Branch, at Nashville under the expectation that I would buy his land. I only replied to his letter that I would, to oblige him, take the land if the lines mentioned included the 80 acres he bought of McCully—finding it did not, I declined, as I had no wish to incumber myself by the purchase of land. When you reach Tennessee examine the land, and if you think the tract is really worth two thousand dollars, have it run, & well marked, and on a good tittle in fee simple being executed, by Capt Mosely to me, there being no dispute or encumbrance in, or on the land, you can draw upon me for two thousand dollars which will be paid here by me on your draft, but I would add five hundred dollars more to the two thousand, if the Eighty acres that Capt Mosely got of McCully can be added to the other 270, which will make the purchase amount to 350 acres—before you conclude the purchase take Colo. Loves advice & have him with you in the examination of the land. Look at the Ginn & mill & see whether they are of any vallue.[2]

The Stock of Horses. I wish to sell the following part of my Stock of horses. Bolivar—if one thousand dollars can be got for him in Tennessee, if not I will have him brought on here. The Stockholder 3 year old out of the miller mare, if five hundred dollars can be got for him, if not put him up at auction with the sway back mare, her two-year old, Sir William, & the colt at her foot, with the miller mare, & if the will bring a fair price let them go—if you can get any one man to purchase, the whole, that is to say the sway back with her two year old Sir william & young colt at

$400—the cotton mare at $200, and the stockholder 3 year old out of the miller mare at $500—you may give a credit on them for two years if not punctually paid at the time it falls due, with interest from the date.

The oscars filley, 2 year old, by sir william, and the sir william out of the cotton mare, may be sold if one thousand dollars can be got for them. If this sum cannot be got, then, they are to be trained this fall, for this purpose, I wish you to see the Messhrs. Cottons (Mr Cryers relations) and make a contract with them to have them with the stud colt, *Citizen*, & the Stockhold filly *trained this fall*, they finding every thing, & paying them a certain price for training & running them. Dick & Byron, if Byron can ride, may be spared to go with them.[3] If your cousin Andrew J Donelson, will undertake to have the two sir williams trained you can agree to let him have them, & you pay~~ing~~ one half the expence, and run them for your joint benefits. You will take Col Loves advice as to the sales of the horses & vary the prices as you & he may determine on

I sent by Mr Danl S. Donelson some *hickory nutts*, with a request that he would hand them to the overseer with a letter directing Steel to plant them around your mothers tomb. Danl has never wrote me the scrape of a pen since he left here—enquire about it & write to me—so soon as you get home, write me whether poor poll is living & give a charge to Hannah that she take care of her.[4] give me a description of the colts by name, & of their probable value, of the negroes, & their health, the state of my farm, & Stock generally, the number of cattle, sheep, hoggs horses; present me kindly to all my neighbours & friends, and as soon as you can return to me, bring on the Trunk of papers that I charged your cousin Andrew to bring on to me. This trunk of papers is to be carefully attended to, that it be, not lost on the way, it would be an irreparable loss to me, attend to it with care—as early after you reach home as you can attend to the business with Capt Mosely & write me—write me often, & may god preseve you & restore you to me in health[.] yours affectionately

Andrew Jackson

[Endorsed by AJ:] Memorandum for A. J. junr.

[Endorsed by AJ Jr.:] Hickory nuts for planting around the Tomb etc

ADS, DLC (58; 17-1370).

1. William Hume's daughter was Rachel Jackson Hume (1827–1910).

2. On June 21 AJ Jr. wrote Moseley a draft on AJ for $2,000, and on June 27 Moseley deeded 250 acres to AJ.

3. Dick and Byron (b. c1820) were Hermitage slaves. The "cotten mare" was one of two provided to AJ by Henry Cotten or Cotton (d. 1828) in 1826.

4. Poll the parrot, purchased in 1827, had been a favorite pet of Rachel Jackson.

To Andrew Jackson Jr.

Washington May 16th. 1831—

My son

This morning I received the enclosed under cover to me, with a request that I would forward it to you. I hasten to comply with the request.

I received a letter from Major Lewis this morning from which I learn that he will not leave Philadelphia for some days, you will present me to him & Mary Ann—and say to him I had written him by you, but his former letter advised me of his return on to day, & I retained it. If he should be in Philadelphia, say to him, I wish him to attend particularly to Major Eatons memerandom, as it regards seeing Genl Parker, and obtaining his statement, as the Major has requested.[1]

Write to me often, & freely, on all subjects—with my prayers that god may take you under his holy keeping, guide & direct you in all your ways, and that he may grant you health & prosperity, is the sincere & constant prayers of your affectionate father

Andrew Jackson

ALS, KyBgW (17-1374). Addressed to AJ Jr. at Philadelphia.

1. Daniel Parker (1782–1846) had been Army adjutant general from 1814 to 1821. On April 15 he had written Eaton from Philadelphia that it was "well known by those connected with the War Department" that Calhoun had faulted AJ's conduct in the Seminole campaign and had tried to persuade Monroe to repudiate it. Parker declined to publish the fact himself but suggested that Eaton, as AJ's biographer and "a recorder of important events," might wish to do so (DLC-39).

From John Macpherson Berrien

Morton Hall (near Savannah)—
17th May 1831—

Dear Sir,

The accompanying letter from Mr Hardin, reached me last night, and I have thought it better at once to forward it to you. I have written to him enclosing a form of a power for the appointment of the delegation, and have told him, in conformity to your instructions, that you will treat at Washington with such a delegation properly authorised—that the Government must not be subjected to any expence if his scheme fails—but that on the event of his success, you will no doubt make to him a fair remuneration—and will provide for the advance he requires at Augusta, to be paid to him on his arrival there with the delegation.

This subject is so deeply interesting to our State, and forms so prominent an item in the councils of your administration, and in the view of the whole American people, that I have thought it advisable to use every exertion for its accomplishment since I came here. In a letter written to

Major Barry a few days ago, I requested him to say to you that I expected to make a similar arrangement with the Creeks through Genl Coffee.[1]

I found my black people here owing to the mismanagement of my overseer and my own absence, in a very wretched condition, many of them in the woods and others in a very dispirited State. My plantation affairs were necessarily very much in disorder. Those who had absconded are coming in to me and I hope to get my affairs arranged so as be able to return to Washington in a few days, for which purpose I am laboring unremittedly. I am very Respectfully Dear Sir Yr Obt St

Jno. Macpherson Berrien

P.S. I have told Mr Hardin that it is desirable that he should direct his whole attention to the object of procuring a delegation, without holding out any idea, that an emigrating office will be opened.[2]

ALS, DNA-RG 107 (M222-29). Berrien enclosed a letter from William Henry Hardin (1798–1854) of Georgia proposing to bring a delegation from the upper portion of the Cherokee Nation to Washington to treat for their removal. Hardin asked for a $400 advance for the delegation's expenses at Augusta and fair payment to himself if his mission succeeded (DNA-RG 107, M222-29). On May 27 the War Department authorized paying the $400 at Augusta (DNA-RG 107, M6-13).

1. John Coffee (1782–1836) of Georgia, a cousin of AJ's friend John Coffee, had corresponded with Berrien and AJ in 1830 about ways to effect Creek removal (*Jackson Papers*, 8:393–94, 418–20). Berrien wrote AJ on July 15 about Coffee's plan to bring a Creek delegation to Washington (below).

2. Hardin's plan hinged on the Cherokee national government's authorizing his delegation to treat for removal of the upper Cherokees alone. Should that fail, he had proposed to Berrien that the U.S. fall back on the policy of enrolling Cherokees individually for emigration.

To Andrew Jackson Jr.

Washington May 18th. 1831—

My son

your affectionate letter of the 16th. has just been recceived. I am happy to hear that your health is good, & a good nights sleep with the refreshing air of the ~~Delaware~~ chesepeak has been very reviving to you. You say to me not to feel depressed about you. My son, I have felt much concern about your health of late, you must be more careful in your habit of being up at parties too late, & exposing yourself to the night air, or you may fasten that cough upon you, that may be fatal to your health; when by care, until your growth is finishd, & your constitution formed, you my enjoy robust health, all your days.

I am happy you met with Major Lewis & his daughter, & Major Barry & family in Philadelphia, it must add to your comfort whilst you remain there. Your cousin Andrew reached here night before last, in eleven days

from Nashville leaving all friends well, and apparently with better feelings—he has been at the races yesterday, and is out to day; I have had but little opportunity to converse with him but he says, every where the people hail the reorganization of my Cabinet, as a happy event, for the harmony & prosperity of the nation.

I have recd the enclosed letter from Capt Mosely, I have written him that you are on you way & instructed to look at the land & if you like it, & it is worth the sum asked, to give it, and to give him, or offer him what it is worth in cash, & draw upon me for the amount. My own opinion is, that seperating it from the Eighty acres bought of McCulla, the first hundred acres is worth from 8 to ten dollars pr acre, from the scarcity of mony, cotton at 8 cents, not worth more than eight dollars cash, pr acre, and the ballance not worth more than *five* dollars pr acre—cotton at 7, cents—but as he appears in distress, if, when you examine the land, if you and Col Love think it worth more in cash, than I have named, be sure that you give it to him. I do not want the land, & the only thing that induced me to say I would purchase was his urget wants, & a belief that he still held, & proposed as part of the tract offered for sale, the 80 acres, add that to the tract, and make the tract 270, acres and I will give the $2000, because it gives an area of level land when united of about 90 acres, and the ballance, gives timber & water, & connects well with my Winston place.[1] I would rather give for that, $2000, than to give $1650— for the tract proposed, without it. Write me often & believe me affectionate yours

Andrew Jackson

P.S Mr Earle & Andrew present their complements A. J

P.S. observe the land well, before you purchase—& beware of the advice of old Mr James Sanders, for he might advise you to give much more than it is worth

ALS, THer (17-1387).

1. Moseley's land bordered the farm of AJ's late neighbor, Anthony Winston (1750–1827), which AJ had purchased in 1828.

From James Alexander Hamilton

New York, May 18, 1831.

My Dear Sir:

I have the pleasure to inclose to you a letter recently received from Mr. Rives. Be so good, after you have read it, as to reinclose it to me. In compliance with his wishes, I am taking means to induce the claimants to

authorize a compromise. The lowest sum to which they will assent will probably be five million dollars. If there is any information at Washington that should induce a belief that as large a sum as that cannot be obtained, I should like to know it in order that I may endeavor to depress the expectations of the claimants even more than I have already done. It would afford me the most sincere pleasure to be of service to the government in this case, as it would at all times and under all circumstances, my dear friend, to serve you. I have looked with great solicitude and the sympathy of a friend to recent events and their consequences as to our country and the fame of my chief, and with the utmost pleasure I have come to the conclusion that all has been not only well done, but that it will result as well as could be expected or wished.

I remain, with the truest attachment, your friend, &c.

Printed, *Reminiscences of James A. Hamilton*, pp. 219–20 (17-1384). William Cabell Rives (1793–1868) of Virginia was the U.S. minister to France. His primary charge was to obtain compensation for French spoliations on American shipping committed during the Napoleonic Wars. Rives had written Hamilton on March 24. He asked if the claimants, largely New York City merchants, would accept a settlement of $5 million, and suggested that getting them to pledge their approval of a stipulated minimum figure in advance could be a "means of protecting the Government hereafter against unfounded and capricious complaints" (Hamilton *Reminiscences*, pp. 200–201). AJ replied to Hamilton on May 22 (below).

To Nicholas Philip Trist

May 19th. 1831—

The President with his respects to Mr Trist, will be happy to see him at his office, this morning, as early as it will suit his convenience

[Endorsed by Trist:] This (or the note of April 12th, I forget which) was to invite me to become his private Secretary N. P. T. Oct. 16. '31

AN, DLC-Nicholas P. Trist Papers (17-1401). AJ had sent Trist a note on April 12 asking to see him (DLC, 17-1148).

To Martin Van Buren

May 20th. 1831—

Dr Sir

I enclose you judge Whites letter this moment received—he refuses to accept the appointment offered him.

I wish to see you, Eaton, and Mr. Livingston this morning—advise Livingston of this, as I expect he is with you—& come by the war office

& bring Major Eaton with you. It will now be proper to make a selection, and the Task is one of some dificulty—yours

Andrew Jackson

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (17-1403).

From Tuskeneah

Creek Nation Cusiatah Town 21st May 1831

Brother

I am very old and feebhle and am not able, to make a long talk. I have thought for Some years I should never make an other. But the Situation of my country makes it necessary for me again to Open my mouth. I have been a Cheif for fifty five years I have witnessed all the Treaties of my Nation with your Government Since the old British war. I have ever been the friend of the white man. I have never taken up a gun against your white children. I have always taken the Presidents of the U.S. by the hand with that friendship which is due from a child to his Father. They have always treated me and my people as if though we had been there white children. I have never Seen the necessity of complaining untill now All my white Fathers and brothers untill now or a few months back have prevented there white sons and daughters from making fields and settling in my Country they have always protected us in the lands that we did not cede away to there government. At this time your white children are fast settling up my country—they are building houses Mills making fields and destroying all my timber & game. This I have always been taught by my Former Fathers and Brothers was not a right which ~~your~~ these white children were entitled to. We have always required of your Government to protect us on the lands that we did not sell. Your Government promised to do so. I was informed by the deputation that visitted you winter before last that you stated to them that you would not allow of such conduct, that you had placed Soldiers among us that would remove all persons that would settle in our Country without our consent and the Agents or had an Indian family. This was strictly attended to untill a few months back, when to my surprise on application for the removal of some white Settlers we were answered by your Soldiers that they could not relieve our wants without your Consent. This talk was like a clap of thunder upon me. All this we have more than once Communicated to you We have never received any answer. our deputation told us on there return to the Nation this winter that the Secretary of War had promised to answer us when more at leisure than He was when they were at Washington City. I should not make this talk only the situation of my Country greatly demands it.[1]

I can only repeat in my talk what we have said to you before your white Sons and daughters are moving into my Country in abundance they are

spoiling my lands and taking possession of the Red peoples improvements that they have made with there own labour. Contrary to the consent of the Nation And your Soldier have refused to prevent it. This makes me Sorry and have caused me to give you this talk. Believing at the same time that you will not give a deaf year to it. For I am contending for nothing but what my People are entitled to and that which your Government has promised repeatedly by Treaty stipulations.

There are dreadful consequences to be anticipated by the emigration of your white children amongst us. they are bringing whiskey and opening drinking Houses nothing but what is bad can result. There are bad white people as well as Red. That neither me nor you can control.

These are the kind of characters that settle among us. They steal our property they swear to lies. they make false accounts against us they sue us in your State Courts for that we know nothing of The Laws that we are immeaneable to are in words that we have no possible means of understaning. Only a few days since an affray took place at an intruders Camp who was selling whiskey to the Red people when a white man was severely beaten. Such conduct makes me unhapy—but I can not help it. I would to the great Spirit above prevent such conduct was it in my power. Affrays alone are not only to be expected, but the Sheding of a quantity of blood I am affraid will be the end. this fills my old Head with trouble. I talk to you altho I am not in person before you I tell you the truth. my tongue is not forked. That such of your white citizens that intrude upon us are of your bad children. they have run away from your laws they cant live with honest white people. And I dont want them among my Red children. There are a number of my Red children in a dreadful Condition without any means of subsistance. they have been Compell'd to resort to there guns

The uchees a small part of our Tribe have in small parties cross'd in to the Settlements of Georgia where Game they believed more plenty.[2] it is likely such of them as did cross the line may have kill'd white people stock. The whites have collected themselves in bodies and hunted up such as did cross into Georgia and shot them as if though they were deer. From the best information I can Learn in the course of the three last months there has been seventeen Red people kill'd by the whites and nothing thought of more than if they had been so many wild Hogs. I can only feel sorry for it they done wrong in crossing the Line. It was contrary to my wish & orders. But yet such conduct is in your white sons. they drive there stock into our Country they spoil our Range. they kill or hogs & Cattle. they kill your white childrens stock runing in my Country and lay it to my red children they have to bear the blame. They hunt and kill our game. We treat them kindly. I dont wish them *[harm.]* But still I believe it wrong. When my People cross to the white settlements I dont want them kill'd. but should they commit a wrong they should suffer in the way your laws points out. I shall endeavour to prevent the Red people from doing

any thing that will offend you or my white Neighbours. All I want is peace and be protected in what belongs to ~~my~~ the Red people, and have been Solemly garanteed to them by your Government. With everey Respect I have the Honor to be your unfortunate old Brother

Tuskenehah-haw his X mark

Daniel Asburry Inter.[3]

[Endorsed by AJ:] War Dept refered for answer to the chief A. J. June 6th. 1836

DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-222). Tuskeneah of Cusseta, whose name was variously rendered, was a prominent chief of the Lower Town Creeks.

1. In February Eaton had informed a Creek delegation in Washington that he was too busy at present to meet them or attend to their grievances (*SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, p. 269, Serial 245).
2. Once a separate people, the Yuchis now resided among the Creeks.
3. Daniel B. Asbury (d. 1856) was clerk of the Creek nation.

To James Alexander Hamilton

(Private)

Washington May 22nd. 1831

My dear Sir,

I have this moment received your kind letter of the 18th. enclosing Mr Rives' of the 24th. of March last, which having perused with attention, I now return as you have requested.

We have no information here that would authorise the conclusion that the sum of five millions of dollars cannot be obtained from France, on our claims—unless we would found our belief upon the report of a majority of the French commissioners to whom it appears, this matter was refered, who reduces the amount to three millions. This I would suppose was intended by them as a basis upon which their first bid was intended to be made as a gross sum, but intending to come up to the amount of the minority, *five millions*. This last sum would, as I believe, cover all our just claims. I am certain six millions would. Wisdom & good policy would suggest the propriety of reducing the consent of the claimants to the lowest sum possible, whilst we know Mr Rives will push them as high as there are any hopes of success. Five or six millions ought to be accepted by Mr Rives if offered, under existing circumstances.[1]

The lively interest you have always taken in my prosperity & happiness since our first acquaintance, deserves, as it receives, my warmest gratitude & thanks. I have had many evidences of your kind feelings, & have duly appreciated it, I will always place a true vallue on your friendship.

It is gratifying to learn that the reorganization of my Cabinet has met with the full approbation of my friends. The moment Mr. Van Buren & Major Eaton tendered their resignations there was but one proper course for me to adopt, that was to renew my Cabinet proper. I parted with those two friends with much regret, but I am sure a grateful country will never loose sight of such disinterestedness; what a constrast! Calhoun using all low intrigue to obtain office, whilst those two true republicans, are voluntarily resigning office, for the quiet & repose of the country

With a tender of my kind salutations to you & your amiable family, I am respectfully your friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, NN (17-1405). Hamilton *Reminiscences*, p. 221.

1. Rives had reported that the French government had referred the American spoliation claims to an internal six-person commission for review. The four-man majority disallowed claims for what it held were legal seizures made under Napoleon's Berlin and Milan decrees and recommended settling the remainder for 10 to 15 million francs. The commission minority admitted the legitimacy of all categories of American claims and proposed a total indemnity of 30 million francs, roughly five-and-a-half million dollars (*HRDoc* 147, 22d Cong., 2d sess., pp. 168–71, Serial 235). Rives wrote AJ with news of a settlement on June 29 (below).

From Francis Wells Armstrong

Knoxville
22d. May. 1831.

Dr Sir

I reached here on Saturday the 21. Inst. On yesterday I visited Judge White. We had a long conversation on the subject of his acceptance of the Office of Secretary of War. I repeated to him the conversations between us. He read to me the answer to your second letter. I said to him that I was to write you & that nothing would be done untill after you heard from me. He replied that he could say no more. That it would be like putting a torch to his possessions—and that the sacrafices would be indesscribable.

But that if you did ~~think~~ believe it necessary either for your self or the Country—notwithstanding his own objections. He would accept. I told him of the feelings of Virginia—and of the great anxiety felt by all for his acceptance and said to him that I did believe that you would insist on it—because the crisis req[uires] it.

I am much gratified to say that Judging from every thing in traveling to this point—your cause meets the approbations of your friends—and I hope all will be right. I shall leave in a few days for the nation. I have the honor to be your Obt Servt.

F. W. Armstrong

ALS, DLC (39). Armstrong (1783–1835), brother of Nashville postmaster Robert Armstrong, had been U.S. marshal in Alabama and would soon be appointed Choctaw

agent. AJ wrote White on receiving this letter on June 1 (below). Armstrong wrote AJ again on May 24 that he believed he had talked White into accepting (DLC-39).

From James Alexander Hamilton

New York, May 22, 1831.

My Dear Sir:

You will have learned from the newspapers that there has been a Convention of Manufacturers in this city, at which a Connecticut man made a foolish speech.[1] I would not call your attention to this meeting if that was the only foolish thing they did. There was also a *private* informal meeting of the leaders of anti-masonry, and formal propositions were made by the former to the latter that they should unite in the support of Clay, which were rejected, the anti-masons declaring that they would be consistent throughout and stand or fall by their principles. This determination, if adhered to, will secure the Electors of this State by a vast majority. I do not mean to express a doubt that the result would be favorable in any event, but that it will in such a state of things be triumphant. By an arrival yesterday from Havre, bringing news to the 18th April from that place, there is much reason to fear that there has been another revolution in Paris. A private letter, from a respectable source, as I understand, received on the morning of the 18th, stated the fact.[2] From the character of the present ministry it is much to be feared that such an attempt will produce most dreadful consequences. If the ministry are successful, absolutism will have achieved a victory. If the people drive their masters out of Paris, there will be civil war, and consequently France will be a party to the Holy Alliance. Removed from the storm, we calmly follow its course and anticipate its results which, however, as a Nation or as lovers of liberty, must be deeply interesting to us. If ignorance and despotism should temporarily prevail, permanently they cannot against knowledge and freedom; they would *partition* France and govern all Europe with an iron grasp and a lash of scorpions. In that event, our liberal institutions and rapid improvements would be a source of jealousy and fear to them. This, however, is an anticipation too remote and calamitous to be indulged. Enslaved Europe is destined shortly to be free.

A meeting is called for to-morrow evening in behalf of the Poles. From the names of the persons who subscribe the call (Mr. Rikers excepted), they are all of the opposition, and men of schemes and contrivances. Their power of doing good is so small that I apprehend they mean mischief. I will attend the meeting purposely to watch their movements, and will give you an account of it if anything occurs deserving of remembrance.[3] I had the pleasure to see your adopted son yesterday who, I am happy to perceive, appears to be in fine health. With sincere regard, Your devoted friend, &c.

Printed, *Reminiscences of James A. Hamilton*, p. 220 (17-1408).

1. A convention to promote the woolens industry was held in New York from May 18 to 20. On May 21 the *Courier and New-York Enquirer* printed "a correct report" of a speech by convention co-secretary Samuel Dickinson Hubbard (1799–1855) of Connecticut. In it, Hubbard called for a subsidized press to instruct Congress and educate public opinion—a "barefaced attempt," said the paper, "to control a free people, and a free government" in the interest of wealthy manufacturers. On May 26 the *Boston Courier* accused the *Enquirer* of fabrication. Hubbard had "said nothing that bore any resemblance" to the *Enquirer*'s text, which was in fact "an exaggerated representation, an impudent perversion" of remarks made by convention co-secretary Henry Shaw of Massachusetts.

2. The *Charles Carroll* from Havre reached New York on May 21, bearing word of a Paris uprising in mid-April.

3. New York papers had published a call for a public meeting on May 23 to support the Polish revolt against Russia. Richard Riker (1772–1842), a lawyer and Recorder for the city, was one of fifteen named subscribers. The meeting was called off the day it was to be held.

To Nelson Davidson

The President, with his respects to Mr. Davidson, coachmaker, informs him that it was impossible that the bill furnished can be for his carriage, as he sent his to get the wheels new rimmed and new tire, and nothing more, as Mr. Davidson had repaired the body, &c. &c. shortly before. Therefore the President cannot pay for other repairs, which he neither ordered, nor his carriage wanted—the President would like to see Mr. Davidson, as he wishes his carriage with repairs ordered.—May 23d, 1831.

Printed, Washington *Daily National Journal*, October 17, 1831 (mAJs). Davidson (1794–1856) was a Washington coachmaker. He furnished this text to the *National Journal*, an opposition paper, after his dispute with AJ became public. Davidson had performed repairs on AJ's carriage in October and November 1830. On November 8 he had billed AJ $124, which AJ paid on November 12 (DLC-73; DLC-38). Now, apparently this same day, Davidson submitted a bill for $214 in new repairs. In an appended note, perhaps added after receiving this message, Davidson said that he had done no more work than was needed, but that if AJ was dissatisfied he could exchange his carriage for either of two new ones, paying "a fair Difference" (DLC-73).

To Nelson Davidson

May 24th. 1830

The President with his respects to Mr Nelson Davidson (Coachmaker) draws his attention to his account rendered, with his note of yesterday requests him to compare it with his account rendered & paid in Novbr. last, for repairs on the same carriage, & he must discover a great mistake. In the account of yesterday he charges for making new the *whole running Geer*—in that of November last, the axeltree, the axeltree bed, & rocking stays, are all made new & iron work repaired, the carriage cleaned,

painted & varnished, and other repairs to amount of $124—in the present bill the whole running Geer charged, and painting the *whole coach*, having been painted & varnished in November last, since which but little used.

The repairs now ordered were only the wheels to be new rimd. & tire, the other parts being in good repair. It would seem therefore, that the only part of the running Geer that could be made *new*, & admitted as a proper charge (in addition to the repairs ordered) is the coupling pole & hounds, with the repair of the Dickey seat, the last not ordered or needed, with the difference in the exchange of the lamp, which the President did not order & regrets that it was made. The President therefore requests Mr Davidson to make out his bill specifying the particular items of repairs now made, which at a fair & customary price will be paid, not including any item for work done & charged in the account rendered in last November.

The President declines Mr Davidsons offer of an exchange of carriages —will thank him to deliver the carriage to the coachman, with his account made out as requested to Mr Guster who will settle the same

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr. Davidson Coachmaker accounts for repair of carriage in Novbr. 1830—& May 1831—

AD, DLC (73). Michael Anthony Giusta (c1786–1872) was AJ's White House steward. Davidson's November 1830 bill had included $80 for trimming the carriage, plus small charges for cleaning and varnishing and for repairs to the front axletree, axletree bed, and rocking stays. Davidson's new bill for $214 included $110 for new running gear, $40 for a new dickey seat, $35 for painting the whole, and $13 for a lamp.

Davidson replied this same day: "this is a Very unplesent Business to me to be Compeled to have Such Controversy But Such is the facks that I Shall Stand In my own Defence and Shall not Retrack from any thing that I have Said or from aney part of my Bill tho your Lofty Standing and haveing all the power in your owne hands I am not to be Impeached or Driving from my post of honesty that I owe to my family & Children for my Bill is Just & wright & I have Done Such woork as was ordered & that by the order of Your Man & Such orders as Coachmakers generally Receive from Gentilmen that Does not Com to the Shop them Selves, & if the Same Repears was Required Everey Day By wear or axidents I am Justifible in Doing the woork and therfor I have made a General Repear of your Coach at this time." AJ endorsed this response: "Mr Guster will get a coach maker to view these accounts & the coach, and pay whatever, any honest coachmaker will adjudge, from the repairs in Novbr. from the circumstance of the repairs required may be thought deserving" (DLC-73). Coachmaker Isaac Bartlett inspected the carriage on May 25, and AJ instructed Giusta on May 26 (below).

From Susan Wheeler Decatur

George Town May 25th 1831

My Dear General,

I know that you are so beset with persons wanting office, that I cannot help fearing that you may forget me who am so entirely out of sight; and

I therefore hope you will excuse me for reminding you of me! I have been oblig'd to leave the Union Hotel without the means of paying my Bill—which is mortifying and humiliating in the extreme

I see by the papers, that Mr Woodbury (to whom you said you wou'd apply in behalf of Mr Williams) has arriv'd, and I entreat you to use your influence with him before his arrangements are made. There is a situation in the Navy Department that has been fill'd for many years by a Mr Maury who resign'd it a few weeks before the resignation of Mr Branch who divided the salary between two persons (friends of his) and who are now doing the duties. Those persons whoever they may be, cannot have stronger claims upon the Nation than I have; and as they have held it but a few weeks it can be no great hardship to give it up and return to their former pursuits.[1]

I can assure you my dear General, that nothing but the extreme *humiliation* of my present situation wou'd induce me to be so troublesome to you, and I pray you to make every allowance for me, and to believe me always most cordially & respectfully Yours

S. Decatur

ALS, DLC-Levi Woodbury Papers (17-1421). Decatur (c1776–1860) was the widow of naval hero Stephen Decatur. With AJ's support, she had for several years been seeking prize money from Congress for the frigate *Philadelphia*, captured by Barbary pirates and then destroyed by her husband in a daring raid in Tripoli harbor in 1804.

1. Susan Decatur's nephew or cousin John Williams (1803–1875) was the clerk of Norfolk's borough court. Richard Brooke Maury (1794–1838) had been a Navy Department clerk with a $1,400 salary. He resigned on April 30. On May 1, Department clerk William Hardeman's salary was raised from $1,000 to $1,400, and Lauriston B. Hardin (c1803–1858) of North Carolina was newly hired at a salary of $1,000. Hardin remained with the Navy Department until his death.

To Levi Woodbury

May 25th. —31

The President with his respects to Governor Woodbury Secretary of the Treasury, draws his attention to the destitute situation of Mrs. S. Decatur, which the inclosed note will unfold. Mrs. D. has a cousin, Mr John Williams, who resides at Norfolk, Clerk in one of the courts held at that place, at a salary of $800 a year, who has proposed to give to Mrs. D. any portion of salary above that sum, that any office he can get here, will afford. Mrs. D. applied to the President for the office about to become vacant by the resignation of Mr Maury in the Navy Dept. The late incumbent, about to leave the office, as I understood, would not do any thing in the case & the President promised to submit Mrs. D. case to Mr Woodbury so soon as he took possession of the Department. The within note, of this morning, has brought the subject to his recollection, and he lays it before the Sec. of the Navy.

Mrs. D. situation is one of great distress; Mr Williams is highly recommended, & would only exchange his present situation to give relief to Mrs. D.

P.S. The President has brought Mrs. D. situation before the Secretary of State, & would be happy the Sec. of the Navy would see, & converse with him, and if any relief can be afforded to her, keeping in view the public interest, the President will be gratified.

AL, DLC-Levi Woodbury Papers (17-1440). Williams remained in Norfolk.

To Emily Tennessee Donelson

Washington May 25th 1831—

My Dear Emily,

I snatch a moment to say to you, that I have recd. your affectionate letter, which I will take the earliest moment of leisure fully to reply to. Judge White having declined to accept the office of Secretary of War, has, from the extraordinary situation of parties, and of Treachery to me, placed me in a situation of calm deliberation in forming my Cabinet a new—so soon as this is accomplished, I will write you fully.

your dear husband is with me, & in good health. My son had left me, before your Dr husband arrived, for Tennessee, not in very good health; he went by the way of Philadelphia on business, & has taken the rout thro' New york, Buffalo, Niagara, and Cincinnati. I have just recd. a letter from him in Newyork, in which he says, his health is much improved from his journey.

Present me kindly to your mother Mary Eastin & all the connection, kiss & take care of jackson, & Mary Rachel; I regret that the little present I sent jackson & Mary Eastin got lost on the way, I hope they have been regained.

give my respects to all my good neighbours, & believe me affectionately yours

Andrew Jackson

P.S. give my kind respects to Mr. McLamore, Betsy, & his amiable family—say to him, I have recd. his kind letter which I will answer soon. You have no doubt seen Govr. Branch' letter & his sudden exit from here.[1] I was truly astonished & mortified at his course, it was unexpected by me, & without cause—it has only opened my eyes, & warned me more fully of the truth of the adage "never abandon old friends, well tried, for new." This I have, & will adhere to. Mr Van Buren and Eaton will be a great loss to me—still I have a few old friends with me, and I hope for harmony, for my enemies can do me no harm, unless thro a division of my Houshold,

and "a House divided against itself cannot stand." When you see Danl. bring him in mind of this.

I have this moment recd a letter from Mr Robert Williams; say to Danl & Margret that him & Rebecca are well, & Gadson is elected in place of Col White[2] A. J.

ALS, DLC-Donelson Papers (17-1424).

1. A letter that John Branch sent from Washington on May 3 to an unnamed friend in Raleigh was published on May 12 in the Raleigh *Star* and on May 16 in the *National Intelligencer* and *Telegraph* in Washington. Branch said "the American people have a right to know the whole truth" about the Cabinet discord that AJ had given as the reason for requiring his resignation, and that "the President is bound to make these explanations to the people." Branch denied any responsibility for Cabinet disharmony himself. "On the contrary, I went as far as a man of honor could go in endeavoring to promote a good understanding and cordial official co-operation with all the members of the Cabinet. But it seems I was expected to go still farther, and not doing so, it has been held good cause for my dismissal. If it is asked, why I did not abandon the Cabinet and expose to the world the malign influences by which it was embarrassed? I would reply, that I constantly looked forward to a favorable change. That especially I relied for this upon the wisdom, firmness and justice of the Chief Magistrate. I have been disappointed. I have had the deep mortification to see him gradually discarding from his counsels and friendship his old and long tried supporters, and throwing himself into the arms of persons whose cold hearted selfishness and artifices were played off upon him for *true* and faithful service."

2. In April, Robert White Williams of Tallahassee had married Rebecca Bradford Branch (1808–1841), Margaret Branch Donelson's sister. AJ's friend James Gadsden (1788–1858) had run for Florida Territory congressional delegate against incumbent Joseph Mills White (1781–1839). Gadsden wrote AJ of his defeat on June 11 (below).

From Anthony Butler

[The italicized passages in this text are words written by Butler in a numeric code and decoded on the manuscript by State Department chief clerk Daniel Brent.]

Mexico 25. May 1831

My dear Sir,

The last mail from Vera Cruz placed in my hands your favor of the 24th. March in which you say "We are without advice from you since Novr. last" The implied censure for negligence conveyed in your remark I assure you Sir is unmerited, for I have written both to Mr. Van Buren and yourself at least once a month since April 1830, and I cannot admit myself as culpable for any misfortunes that may attend my Correspondence on its transit to the U. States: I would besides remark that from an extract in the Telegraph of February republished from the Mexican Official Newspaper of Decr. 21, you must have recd. my letter to you of January last, even had that of Decr. failed because it was in this letter of January that I enclosed to you the Newspaper from whence the extract is taken, and I find the translation is in the very words made by me and forwarded to you along

with the Newspaper; I have always wrote when any thing worth communicating presented itself either of fact or opinion, and if I considered it unworthy of being embodied in a formal Official despatch, I have usually addressed Mr Van Buren a private letter—of these he must have received from me a dozen or twenty.[1]

The subject of *Texas* about which you express so much anxiety, I have never for one moment lost sight of, for in addition to what I knew were your wishes on that subject, I could not be insensible to the great advantages our Country would derive from the acquisition; and my opinions communicated very freely on this subject both to yourself and Mr. Van Buren in the summer of 1829 in Washington City abundantly establishes the fact.[2] The question has been postponed however up to this period in the exercise of a discretion allowed me by the Secretary of State in his despatch of May 1830 and confirmed by a letter from yourself—and hence I have been waiting the arrival of a fit season for opening the Negociation; Hitherto there has never been a time in my opinion when that question could have been touched with any prospect of success.[3] You know the state of public feeling towards us which prevailed universally at the period of my arrival in Mexico, and of the change in the Administration that took place immediately thereafter. A party had risen into power that my predecessor declared to be so hostile to the U States and so completely under the dominancy of a foreign faction, that it would be vain to expect from them, any thing like justice, and the tone of the public prints as well as every one to whom I had access for information confirmed Mr. Poinsett's opinions. It may readily be conceived how discouraging was this prospect—to me a perfect novice in diplomacy called unexpectedly to occupy a station on a theatre entirely new to me—to be engaged in the performance of duties to the very forms of which even I was a stranger; totally unacquainted with the Language of the people amongst whom my duties were to be discharged, my situation could not fail to be in the highest degree embarrassing, and had I been permitted to follow the dictate of my own Judgment I would not have remained here a day—these impressions were frankly communicated to you in a letter by the gentleman who was bearer of my Commission accompanied by an earnest request, to be permitted to return—this request it was not seen fit to comply with; it then became me in duty to my Country, as well as to those obligations of friendship which had united us for more than 20 years, and by the influence of which I had been placed here, to brace myself for contending against those difficulties which seemed to surround me on every side, and to be prepared to make the most of any favorable circumstance that might present itself. In the temper however which was daily manifesting itself towards us, the jealousies, suspicions and prejudices against our Country, our Government and its people, jealousies and prejudices displayed in the Newspapers of every day, and in the Conversations at every street corner, and from which the Administration was not exempt

as the secret Report made by the Secretary of State to Congress, a Copy of which I procured and forwarded to Mr. Van Buren must abundantly testify.[4] In such a state of things I repeat, it would have been something worse than folly to approach the affair of *Texas*. It was a principal object with me to permit that subject to rest so completely that it would be lost sight of by the people here, and be taken up on some proper occasion after all the suspicions and Jealousies it had awakened were dissipated: But our Newspapers have kept it so constantly before the public gaze not only in the U. States but so as to attract the attention of Europe during the past year, as in a great degree to prevent the previous excitement from subsiding, and much that I hoped to gain by delay is lost to me from that Circumstance.

In this interval however no time has been lost, because hitherto the popular sentiment in *this Country was so opposed to our possession of Texas* that *the Government* would not have dared to entertain a *proposition* on the subject much less consent to a *Transfer* of the *Country to us*. Whenever the *News-Papers* desired to fan anew the flame of *opposition* against *General Guerrero* there would appear *publications* charging *him with the design of selling Texas to the United States* and then add that for such a crime alone he deserved *expulsion from* the *Government* all this served to admonish me that *success* in a *negociation* for *Texas* hitherto was out of the question, and could only serve to embarras me in my pursuit *of other objects*.[5] I consider the present moment at least as favorable as any that has past by for *commencing the negociation* and shall in conformity with your expressed wishes use the first *favorable occasion to open* the *subject* to the *Secretary*.

Your informant is entirely mistaken in the fact of Mr. *Alaman* being concerned in the *Texas Grants*. I know positively that <u>he</u> is in no wise interested *as a Proprietor*. Mr. *Zavala* is known to have formed a *Company* in the *United States* for *settling* his *land* and it is well known here also that he *declared* before he *left Mexico* that he *would revolutionise Texas*.[6] I cannot decide what effect all this will have upon the *Government* here nor of the reports of *Companies* formed in *Newyork* and *Boston* but these facts are all just as well known in *this Country* as they are in the *United States* and may operate favorably. *I shall certainly turn them to the best use* when the subject is brought on the tapis.

I must apprise you that I have had some reasons very recently to doubt the sincerity and good will of *this Government* and would suggest that on some proper occasion you should let their *Minister* Mr. *Montayo* understand that we [con]sidered their backwardness in the *Commerical Treaty* as no favorable evidence of their professions of good will and a desire to *establish Confidence and promote the friendly Relations between the two Governments* that we had been induced to expect.[7] I am convinced that it has become necessary *to make these People understand that they are of much less importance to us than they suppose* or the *British Party*

persuade them to believe. I have no doubt such a course will have a good effect immediately, as well as upon all our *future negociations*. You cannot have forgotten the terms in which Mr. *Alaman* the *Secretary* of *State* spoke of us *in his secret communications to Congress last year* and it cannot be supposed that all these prejudices and hostility has *past away*. Besides you know that he is a *British Agent* with a large *salary* and cannot but be more or less under control of that *Influence*. He is a shrewd artful *man, but I know him*.

Gen. Teran it is said has written the Governmt. demanding a reinforcement of 7000 troops, 2000 of which to be Cavalry, and states that without the addition he requires he will not be answerable for the safety of the province. The Troops will not be sent—in the first place they have not that number disposable, and secondly the present Administration would not trust such an army to any man, much less one so well calculated to become a successful rival in power. The Acordada, and Jalapa are not so soon forgotten.[8] *I may be able to turn this fact to good account* in the succeeding *negociation*.

The rambling style of the present letter will convince you that I am not entirely myself—for the last 24 days I have been confined to my chamber and the greater part of the time to bed, and even now I am too feeble to write or even sit up more than 10 minutes at a time, but a desire to answer your last letter at once overcome all pain and inconvenience, and I have done so. Mexico has been visited by a severe epidemic something like what was called the Cold plague in the U. States, that has prostrated half the Town, and been very fatal in its effects; I am recovering, but so slowly, that I shall be compelled to go North for a complete restoration of my health, and for that purpose I now request permission for a few weeks absence, so soon as the rainy season is past. I will take care to select a period for my absence when the public service cannot suffer, and remain out of the Capital no longer than it is indispensable to do so, keeping up a Communication with this place at the same time so that my Correspondence will not be interrupted. Pray send me this leave of absence by the earliest packet, for to even hope for restoration in latitude 19:50 where I now am is out of the question.[9]

The impatience you express for the conclusion of the Commercial Treaty, I have felt and still feel in common with yourself but it seems that we shall not have it for more than a month yet. Congess have four Treaties at present before them. I have learned through a source entitled to credit, that the Committee on foreign relations have reported in favor of our Treaty and recommended its adoption with the exception of that article relative to fugitive slaves. I am in hopes that eventually the whole Treaty will stand as it is, but for fear of difficulty the whole case is stated in my despatch to Mr. Van Buren and to which I refer you.[10]

Mr. Alaman proposed transmitting the Treaty to the U. States for ratification previous to acting upon it here—but I replied as I have always done

to such a proposal—"That as we had ratified two Treaties with Mexico at different periods heretofore, both of which had been rejected by this Government, no other should ever be sent by me to the U. States unless accompanied with the ratification here."

I shall expect to hear from you at your earliest Convenience, and remain with very sincere Respect my dear Sir your obliged & faithful

A. Butler

ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M97-6). Extract, *HRDoc* 351, 25th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 381–82 (Serial 332). Butler wrote again on June 23 (below).

1. On February 8 the *US Telegraph* printed a piece headed "Translated from the 'Official Register' of Mexico of 21st December, 1830." It hailed the friendly relations shown in AJ's exchange with Bustamante in 1830 and in Butler's "praise worthy conduct."

2. Butler had written both AJ and Van Buren around August, 11, 1829, describing Texas and urging its acquisition (Van Buren Papers, DLC; 13-1073).

3. Van Buren had instructed Butler on April 1, 1830, that the "unsettled state of affairs in Mexico" had "induced an apprehension on the part of the President that the present is not an auspicious moment for the successful opening" of a Texas negotiation. "To watch the state of the public mind, the opinions of the principal members of the Government, and hear what is said on all sides, is all that is, for the present, expected from your agency in the matter" (*HRDoc* 351, 25th Cong., 2d sess., p. 62, Serial 332).

4. Lucas Alamán (1792–1853) was Mexico's Minister of Interior and Exterior Relations. Butler had acquired a copy of his report to the Mexican Congress on Texas and sent it to Van Buren on March 9, 1830. It warned of American designs on Texas and urged immediate measures to thwart them (*HRDoc* 351, 25th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 311–22, Serial 332).

5. Former Mexican president Vicente Ramón Guerrero (1782–1831) was deposed in December 1829 and executed in February 1831.

6. Mexican politician Manuel Lorenzo Justiniano de Zavala y Sáenz (1789–1836) was awarded an empresario grant in 1829 to settle five hundred families in Texas. He left Mexico in June 1830, and in October joined in founding the Galveston Bay and Texas Land Company in New York City.

7. AJ put a pointer on this paragraph and wrote opposite it: "*[. . .]*etary of State *[. . .]* to this A. J." On July 25 he forwarded the letter to Livingston (below). José María Montoya had been appointed chargé d'affaires to replace departing minister José María Tornel y Mendívil. He presented his credentials on June 6.

8. José Manuel Rafael Simeón de Mier y Terán (1789–1832) commanded Mexican forces and directed Mexican colonization efforts in Texas. The so-called Acordada revolt in 1828 displaced Mexican president-elect Manuel Gómez Pedraza in favor of Vicente Guerrero, whom Pedraza had defeated in the election. The Plan of Jalapa of December 4, 1829, had announced the uprising that deposed Guerrero and installed Bustamante.

9. The State Department approved Butler's request for leave on July 26 (*HRDoc* 351, 25th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 80–81, Serial 332).

10. An article of the commercial treaty signed on April 5 required official cooperation in the rendition of slaves who escaped across the border. Butler reported to Van Buren on May 26 that a member of Mexico's Congress had told him this "was the only article that, from present appearances, would excite any contest" (*HRDoc* 351, 25th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 383–85, Serial 332). The two houses of Mexico's Congress disagreed over the article; and, to prevent the resulting impasse from defeating ratification, Butler and Alamán signed a protocol on December 17 deleting the article from the treaty. Butler wrote AJ with news of the treaty's ratification on December 23 (below).

To John Coffee

Washington May 26th. 1831—

My dear Genl

Your esteemed favour of the 3rd instant reached me on the 16th., but I have been so engaged with the reorganization of my Cabinet, that I have had no time to reply, & now, have only time to say how much I am gratified by your approbation of my course. You will have seen Govr. Branchs letter of the 3rd. of May published in a north Carolina paper, and his haste to leave here the day before it was to reach here. This conduct of his gives to the world evidence of his weakness, if not of his depravity, for I assure you, I have at all times treated him with the utmost candour and from his late course, I have no doubt, was more to blame than any other of my Cabinet. His conduct to Eaton, & his treachery to me, was what I never expected, or he would never have formed one of my Cabinet, and he & his family, I am now sure, was the great cause of estranging Emily & Andrew from me; for if they had firmly united it could not have existed, it would have died, as it ought.

Judge White having refused to accept, has produced unpleasant feelings in me, and from the treachery of *man*, which I have experienced, makes it necessary for me to deliberate well before I fill this place. Livingston & Woodbury are both here & in their respective offices, I expect Mr McLane about the first of july, if he accepts, of which I harbour no doubt, and I can fill the war office *well*, we will get on prosperously, regardless of all the intrigue, of Duff Green Calhoun & Co, aided by all the corrupting influence of the U. States Bank.[1]

Major A. J. Donelson is with me, and I hope his eyes are beginning to be opened that old friends never ought to be abandoned for new ones. I shall miss my friends Eaton & Van Buren much, but still their course was proper & necessary, & I am sure a patriotic community will reward them for the noble act, of retiring from office, to give quiet & peace to our country, that the system of electioneering in congress may cease, and the legitimate duties of its members, *Legislation*, be attended to, without the interruption of the Calhoune intrigues for office

I have just recd. a letter from my overseer Steel, informing me of a quarrel & fight with Hutchings. It has given me much pain. I have wrote to them both to day. To Steel, that he is to treat Hutchings kindly, & to Hutchings, that he must not attempt to misuse, or whip the negroes; if they misbehave to him, I have directed him to inform Steel, & he will chastise them, but no person but Steel, is to interfere with the negroes. That at the Hermitage Hutchings is to have a home, but I expect he will aid in keeping peace rather than be its disturber

I wish you would write to Hutchings & get him to go to school, until he is of age to take charge of his estate.

I hear that judge Overton is between this & Wheeling in delicate health, my son has left me for Tennessee, or I would send him to meet him.

Present me affectionately to Polly & every Branch of your amiable family & believe me your friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, THi (17-1446).

1. Livingston had been commissioned Secretary of State on May 24.

To Michael Anthony Giusta

Washington May 26th. 1831

Mr. Justa having reported to me that Mr Davidson Coachmaker in this city after agreeing to refer the repairs which he has made of my coach beyond those he was authorised to make according to my instructions, to two master Coachmakers to place a value upon them, has now refused to abide their award and is unwilling to have those repairs valued by workmen of his own choosing: and in as much as a workman skilled in the art of coachmaking has examined the said repairs and pronounced some of them not well done, and that, estimating the whole repairs as well done, they are not worth more than one Hundred and fifty dollars: now that full justice may be done Mr Davidson, Mr. Justa will please tender to him one Hundred and Eighty dollars, being thirty more than the estimated cost of the repairs, and if he refuses to receive the amount to notify him that the undersigned will take no other steps towards the payment of the account which he has rendered, except still to assent to the award which any two disinterested and honest mechanics of Mr. Davidsons own choosing may make upon an examination of the work done and of the seperate accounts for repairs rendered in November last and now. Agreeably to such an award the undersigned will pay for all the repairs put upon his carriage by Mr. Davidson altho none were authorised but those which appear on the wheels—viz new tire and rims.

Andrew Jackson

[Endorsed by AJ Donelson:] Mr. Davidsons recept. of $180 for the repair of the Presidents coach according to the memorandum presented by Mr. Justa of which this is the original—

DS in AJ Donelson's hand, NjP (17-1452). Washington *Globe*, October 18, 1831. After AJ's May 24 exchange with Davidson, Giusta had proposed to Davidson that they each choose a disinterested coachmaker to appraise his repairs to AJ's carriage. Davidson agreed but then changed his mind, writing Giusta on May 26 that he would not "have my work put up at Auction." Meanwhile Giusta had chosen a coachmaker, Isaac Bartlett, who inspected the carriage and wrote AJ on May 25 that "I would be very well satisfied to get $150 for the

same work but I should be very sorry to have such work go out of my shop for I do not consider it done in a workmanlike but a very small part of the job at any rate" (NjP; 17-1419). This same day, AJ wrote Giusta a $180 check for Davidson. Giusta read this directive to Davidson and offered him the $180, which Davidson accepted and receipted on May 27. In August Giusta made a memorandum of the entire transaction (NjP; 18-0382).

To John Randolph

Copy

Washington City
May 26th. 1831

Dr. Sir,

I have received your letter of the 6th. ulto. and deeply regret the continuance of your bad state of health. It is our duty however to acquiesce in the dispensations of Providence, and to regard what they have not placed within our controul as witheld for wise purposes.

Instructions will be sent to you from the proper Department which I trust will relieve you from every embarrassment, so far as you may have felt any, on account of our desire that you should have visited St Petersburgh before your return to the United States. The explanations due to the Russian Government on the occasion of the termination of your mission can as well be made from London: and you are accordingly authorised to make them without visiting again the Russian court. As soon afterwards as the state of your health will permit you will be at liberty to sail for the United States.[1]

It will afford me the greatest pleasure to meet you again in your native land: In the mean time I can only say that I wish you a prosperous voyage, and all the happiness with which a sincere friendship, and the most cordial and high respect for your eminent services to your country, would be glad to crown your remaining years. Very respectfully Yr. obt. svt

Signed Andrew Jackson

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr. J. Randolph's letters with my answers, before and during his mission to Russia, with one to Mr Stevenson—private, & one of Mr J. Randolphs confidential—with his letter & my answer 26th of May 1831

Copy in AJ Donelson's hand, DLC (39). Randolph replied on June 28 (below). AJ's endorsement is on an adjacent cover addressed by him to Andrew Stevenson in Richmond. AJ had written Stevenson on November 10, 1830, defending Randolph (*Jackson Papers*, 8:617–18).

1. Van Buren had written Randolph on May 23, enclosing his official notice of recall and authorizing him to forward it on to Russia, close his mission at once, and come straight home from London (DNA-RG 59, M77-8).

From Dehahuit

Caddo Nation May 28h. 1831—

Respected Sir,

I wish to Know if Any Late Instructions have been given to our Present Agent & the Gunsmith, in the time of Capt. Gray the late agent I was promised & did Receive An Annuity & my Blacksmith work used to be done as I wanted it. of Late I Recive nothing & the Smith Refuses to do my work unless I pay him for it.[1] it is three years Since I have Recived any thing on account of my Annuity, I want to know If Brooks the present agent does not Receive it & Keep it for himselfe. Myselfe & all the Indian tribe's in my Vicinity have lost all Confidence in Brooks. we all want a New Agent & a new Interpreter of Our own Choice, the agent we have is no better than none, We Can get nothing done by the Present Agent. If the Allowances I used to Recive from the Government of the United States are stoped or not I wish to Know. I pray the President to have the goodness to write to me & direct your letter to the Care of Doctor John Sibley or Judge Car of Natchitoches, that it may not Come into the hands of Brooks the Present agent[.][2] I Am with great Respect your Obt. Hble Servant

Dehahuit (Caddo Chief)

ALS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-31). Dehahuit (c1760–1833) was the principal chief of the Caddos. AJ had appointed Jehiel Brooks (1797–1886) to the Red River agency at Natchitoches, La., in March 1830.

1. Jacob Irwin (1790–1885) was the agency blacksmith. On November 16, 1825, the War Department had directed Red River agent George Gray to pay Dehahuit "an annuity for the time being, of Fifty Dollars" as reward for his friendliness to the neighboring Quapaws (DNA-RG 75, M21-2). Gray died in November 1828.

2. John Sibley (1757–1837) was a physician and former Orleans Territory Indian agent, and John Charles Carr (c1776–1833) had been a Natchitoches judge.

From John Henry Eaton

War Dept 28. May 1831

Sir

In answer to Mr. Bakers letter of the 10 Int which you have referred to this Dept. I have the honor to state, that the location of the road to the Missi River from Wheeling is a matter over which the Executive can not exercise control

On the 15 of May 1820, an act was passed directing the location of this road; & again, in 1825 3d of March, the subject was legislated upon, & $150.000 appropriated. This last act, to guard against every thing of local interest, directs that a commissioner should be appointed to make the location, who, should not at the time, be a citizen of either Ohio Indiana

Illionois or Missouri. In pursuance of it, Mr. Knight of Pensylvania was dispatched to make the examination & the location. He executed the trust, far as Illionois. Mr Shriver then became the commissioner (also from Pensyl) He made no decision as to the location west of Vandalia, the seat of Govt for Illio. It was his business to do so; the law vested the authority only in the Commissioner. From Vandalia by direction of the Sec of War in 1828, he surveyed the two routes which Mr. Baker alludes to, the one passing by St Louis, & the other crossing the Mississi River, near the mouth of the Illionois. This report was laid before Congress by you at the session of 1829–30, that it might be decided which was the preferable route; but they came to no decision.[1] The Executive cannot determine the location, the law giving no such power; & of course westwardly from Vandalia the road must remain unattended to, until by a decision of Congress, the location can be ascertained to be by St Louis, or Alton Illio. Very respectfully

J. H Eaton

I enclose a Copy of a letter heretofore addressed to Mr. Stanbery of Ohio, showing the opinion entertained, that Congress only can alter the location of the road—not the Executive[2]

J. H E

[Endorsed by AJ:] on the subject of the National road. The Executive has no power to interfere. The law has been complied with by a commissioner being appointed & the road located by him A. J.

ALS, DLC (39). The Cumberland or National Road ran west from Cumberland, Md., through Wheeling, Va., across Ohio and Indiana into Illinois. It was funded by Congress, ostensibly from the proceeds of public land sales. David Jewett Baker (1792–1869), recently a U.S. senator from Illinois, had written AJ on May 10 to protest having the road cross the Mississippi River into Missouri at St. Louis, "a point, inconvenient and objectionable to Illinois," rather than at Alton, Ill. Baker claimed that Indiana had been allowed to decide the road's entry point into Illinois, and that Illinois should have the same right against Missouri (DNA-RG 107, M222-29).

1. The 1825 Act, modifying one of 1820, had directed the president to appoint a commissioner, not a resident of the states concerned, to survey the road west of Zanesville through the capitals of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri. Jonathan Knight of Pennsylvania (1787–1858) was the first commissioner, succeeded in 1828 by Joseph Shriver (1806–1886) of Maryland. In January 1830 Shriver reported two routes westward from Vandalia, then capital of Illinois: one crossing the Mississippi at St. Louis, which he favored, and another crossing upriver near Alton. Eaton submitted Shriver's report to AJ, remarking that the decision lay with Congress, not the executive, and on February 12, 1830, AJ transmitted it to the House of Representatives (*HRDoc 59*, 21st Cong., 1st sess., Serial 197).

2. Eaton enclosed a copy of letter he had written on May 21, 1829, to Ohio congressman William Stanbery, explaining his lack of authority to reroute the road between Zanesville and Columbus through Newark (DLC-37).

From "Oto Cho" (Ishtehotopa) et al.

chickasaw Agency
May 28th. 1831.

To our father Genl. Jackson

Agreeable to a treaty held at Franklin (Ten) in 1830 between The Honl. John H. Eaton & Genl John Coffee commissioners &C. and a delegation of your chickasaw children, a delegation was selected by the Nation who proceeded under the guidiance and care of our Agent in serch of a country and a home west of the Mississippi River, we travel'd westwardly through the Territory of Arkensaw and through the cherokee country and seen a small portion of the creek country we then Traveled south and west giving to the country on the canadian the red Rivers and their Tributary streams as thorough an examination as the unsual cold winter would admit.

Father, we met a delegation of our choctaw brothers under the care of their friend Col. George S Gains on the south fork of the Canadian, we traveled with them over their country and after becoming satisfied as to its extent and quality we saw not more good lands then what we thought they would want themselves, notwithstanding we ~~made a proposal~~ proposed to purchase a part for our people they refused to sell and sayd that they had not more good lands then they wanted, and would not sell one foot.

Father It is our wish and hope to preserve our independence our Nation and our names to the latest Generation, and for this purpose and in order that we might become as extencively acquainted with the country west of Arkansas as possible, we petitioned our agent to permit a portion of our delegation to cross the red river and examine a portion of the Texes country which was granted and our agent gave us his purse and all the means in his power to make our journey comfortable and to afford us protection accordingly five of us in number proceeded across the Red river not fare above where the east boundry of the choctaw country strikes the red river and proceeded to examine the country betwen the red & sabbeen rivers this country we are well pleased with.

Father The tract of country which we explored south of red river lyes along side of our choctaw brothers and between the red and sabbeen rivers and adjoining the west boundry of the state of Louisana from river to river If this country can be procured for us our Nation will remove and be satisfied, we see no other country which we think would suit us so well.

Father we hope that you will not think that your chickasaw children are disposed to remove beyound your controll and protecting care, we love ~~your regulations~~ our white Brothers, and have been a happy people under your care and protection untill of late, the state of Mississippi has extended her laws over us and we are threatened and looking for the same fate from Alabama.

Father we are told that the laws of those states are written in more then a hundred big books we cannot read we cannot understand them and altho we love our white brothers, we cannot see in the extention of these state laws over us any thing but injustic and oppression. we have been taught to look to the east from the days of our greate and beloved father George Washington to the days of our greate and beloved father Genl. Jackson for protection we have not lost confidence but will wait with patience for the country which our brothers Majr Eaton & Genl Coffee promised us which is to be equal in extent to the one we now occupy with water soil & timber sufficient for all the purposes of the chickasaw people.

Father we have ever been true and faithfull to all treatys that has been entered into by our nation and we still have confidence in our father the president that when he finds that we are anxious to comply with the late treaty, that he will not see his chickasaw children brought under state laws which we cannot understand. your red children is now oppressed by new laws & customs executed by white officers whose words we do not understand. you have told us father that if we remain where we are you cannot prevent this state of things

Father we know that you speake not with a forked toung, you have told us that you wished to see your chickasaw children prosperous and happy. we know that we cannot be so under the existing state of things and our only hope is that you will provide a home for us beyound the reach of the white mans laws, where we can again be happy and free in the enjoyments of our own laws and customs and under the protecting care of our father the president of the United States

Father—some of our people are dissatisfied and wish to remain at their old homes and think that injustice has been done them, we would therefore respectfully ask that the following clauses & provisions be added to the Treaty—

1st. That each famil~~ies~~y who may ~~wish~~ remain shall be entitled to a reservation of a section and a half of land.

2nd each emigrant whose improvements has added value to his occupency to receive in money such valuation from the government in addition to the sum which he is to receive for his reservations.

Father—we your chickasaw children being anxious to see our father the president we therefore respectfully ask permition for a delegation of our people twelve in number to visit Washington City at your next session of Congress

Accept Father the fervent wishes of your chickasaw children for your health and a contineuation of your usefull labours for your country[.] With Greate Respect your dutifull Children

Oto cho the King—his X mark
Tish a mingo—his X mark
Majr. Levi Colbert—his X mark

Col. George Colbert—his X mark
Capt Wm. McGilvery—his X mark

[Thirty-four additional signatures follow.]

Signed in full council of the Cheifs and Warriors of the Chickasaw Nation at the Chickasaw Agency this 29th May 1831 in presence of

Benja. Reynolds U.S. Agent
John L Allen U S Sub Ageant
W. D. King of Ala[1]
Robertson Childress of Tennessee

DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-136). Copy, DNA-RG 46 (17-1464). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 469–71 (Serial 245). Ishtehotopa (d. 1846) was the hereditary Chickasaw king. Tishomingo (c1736–1838), brothers Levi Colbert (c1759–1834) and George Colbert (c1764–1839), and William McGillivray or "Red Cat" (c1754–1844), were leading Chickasaw chiefs. Reynolds enclosed this address to Eaton on June 10, explaining that it was the product of a week-long Chickasaw council beginning May 23 and "is the result of their own minds, without any interference on my part" (*SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 468–69, Serial 245). John Coffee wrote AJ about the council on May 30 (below).

1. John L. Allen (d. 1865) was the Chickasaw subagent. William D. King had accompanied the Chickasaw western exploring party.

To John Coffee

Washington May 29th. 1831

My Dr Genl

judge White has refused to accept the war office, I regret this on more accounts than one—still I fear not. My energies has hitherto rose with the occasion, & trust providence will not forsake me. I shall offer it to Col Drayton Charleston So Carolina—this I wish not spoken of until we know whether he will accept.

I see that the Nashville paper, ~~that~~ Hunt, has made an attack on Lewis—does Calhouns combination there, believe, they can drive all my old & well tried friends from me, if the do, I assure them they are mistaken[1] If every man woman & child was to petition, with the arch intriguing hypocrite at their head, with Duff Green to endorse for them, this could not be effected. Calhoun & all his secrete emisaries cannot now effect me. Mr Calhoun will run for President if his friends believe he can be got into the House. This has been intended since 1828. The secrete & precious plots are all leaking out.

When I wrote you last I intended saying to you if you will take my Hulling machine & set it up on your creek you are welcome to it. It will

be much more profitable that your sawmill The oil will be used in our Light Houses & Lamp & be of immese use[.] In great haste yr friend

Andrew Jackson

[Endorsed by Coffee:] Genl. Jackson, offering me he hulling machine—to hull cottonseed for oil—

ALS, THi (17-1469). Coffee replied about the hulling machine on July 9 (below).

1. William Gibbes Hunt (1791–1833) was editor of *The National Banner and Nashville Whig*. On May 4 the *Banner* praised the new Cabinet but called also for replacing Treasury auditors William B. Lewis and Amos Kendall. It continued through the month to demand Lewis's resignation or removal, saying that public opinion required it.

From David W. Haley

Yazoo May 29th. 1831

Dear General

The choctaws in this section of the nation express a greate wish that there was some authorised person to receive their cattle as they all wish to move this coming fall, and do not wish to leave their cattle undelivered which will compell many to stay a year longer and others to return next spring to collect and deliver them. I am of opinion the cattle may be disposed of at a price nearly if not eaqual to what the government will have to give. many may be induced to carry there stock with them by the governments paying them for the trouble of driving which may be arange on very reasonable terms. by having one or two days in each month as Auction days for selling off those that may be delivered I have but little doubt but they can be well disposed of. I am living within 2½ miles of Col. Leflores and at a proper point in his district to receive cattle. Should you think me a proper person to receive and dispose of those that may be delivered in this district I will except of the office and leave nothing undone to make the loss as small to the govr. as posible.[1]

It is all important that a road should be opened from some place near this point crossing the Mississippi at Lake Providence to the high lands west of the Mississippi River, and establish good ferry boats at all the navigable streams in the swamp; this would induce many to drive their cattle, horses &c. the United States Troops stationed in this vicinity are anxious to do it, believing they will enjoy better health than lying still. they will have no difficulty in the route as there is an Indian path through the swamp this route they would make the road, and from the west end of lake Providence there is a good route to the high lands at which point the land parties can take their routes for Red River or Arkansaw. I submit those thoughts for your concideration. Your friend

D. W. Haley

[Endorsed by AJ:] Referred to the War Dept

ALS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-169). Copy, DNA-RG 46 (17-1473). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 1, pp. 707–8 (Serial 244).

1. The Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek pledged the U.S. to purchase the cattle of emigrating Choctaws "at the valuation of some discreet person to be appointed by the President" (*Indian Treaties*, 2:313). On July 14, the War Department at AJ's direction appointed William Douglass. He was instructed to receive and value the cattle, sell them promptly at advertised public sale, and offer assistance to Choctaws who chose to keep their cattle and drive them westward (*SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2., pp. 311–12, Serial 245).

From John Coffee

Florence 30th. May 1831—

Dr. Sir

About the time of my arrival at home from Ten, I learn that the Chiefs of the Chickasaw Nation had a meeting at their Agency, for the purpose of coming to some conclusions on the subject of their removal to the west.[1] I got a letter from Col. Reynolds, inviting me to attend the meeting, but too late, as I did not receive it for two days after the Chiefs had convened, and then I could not have reached them untill their counsil had broken up, and they gone home. I did not regret it that I was not there, believing it would be best to let them alone for a time at least, to come to their own conclusions uninterrupted by the U. States, for they know they cant live among the whites, under the state laws, not even the most civilized of them, they must go, & therefore I would suggest to them, that you can have any lands which have not been appropriated to the other nations, or if you prefer it, to live on a part of the Choctaw lands, and can arrange it with them, you can do so, and the Govt. will give the Choctaws a reasonable compensation for the land &c—but if neither can be done, then remain where you are and submit to the laws, and become Citizens of the state, and nothing more on the subject ever hereafter—this I would think the best course to be pursud towards them. I understand they seem very coy, and say that they are willing to move if they can find a country that pleases them, but that they have not yet seen any that would suit them at all, except on the south side of Red River, in the Texes Country, and even there to be under the protection of the U. States Govt.

I would be glad of your wishes and views, as to the language to be used to them, as I believe they expect to hear from me; from what passed last summer at the treaty with them, however I suppose the agent will advise you of the result of the Counsel lately held at his residence. I have the honor to be Sir your Obt. Servt.

Jno. Coffee

ALS, DLC (39). AJ replied on June 19 (below).

1. This council had produced the Chickasaws' May 28 address to AJ, above.

From John Randolph

London May 30th. 1831.

My dear Sir,

By the last Packet I had the pleasure to receive your very welcome letter of the 12th. of April, enclosing one from our friend Mr. Lew. Jones. The accident which befel it has often occurred in my own case & required no explanation.

The King's Birth day was celebrated on the 28th with every demonstration of Joy. The illumination was most splendid. Grand Entertainments were given by Ministers & great officers of State—one by Lord Palmerston to the Corps Diplomatique, in which he did me the honour to include me.[1] I went, at some expense of bodily suffering, because I did not feel at liberty to do otherwise. The popularity of the King has never been surpassed by that of any of his Predecessors. It is true that the Bigots & ultra Tories dislike him, but with the great body of the Nation he is all in all. They have triumphantly responded to his appeal. of 82 county members, England returns 76 for Reform, & of 50 Representatives of Cities, 42. The adversaries draw nearly their whole strength from the Boroughs marked in Schedules *A*. & *B*. Ireland speaks a language equally decided, & even Scotland will give a majority for "the bill." The people of that Kingdom are nearly unanimous in its favour.[2]

France, as you will have perceived, has thrown herself into the arms of The Great Powers. Her name is now an object of derision throughout Europe. The question of Peace or War depends upon Louis Philip & his ministry being able to maintain themselves with the French People. Events have, I confess, so far, baffled all my calculations. Peace seems likely to prevail, for some time to come, at least.

I am well aware, my dear Sir, that these speculations of mine can have little value for you who no doubt have better intelligence than I can procure. The Fate of Poland is as yet undecided but I fear that the bloody Tragedy draws to a close. It will be a lasting opprobrium upon this age & race.

What you say about my return to Congress is most soothing & flattering, but I have long ago requested that my name should be withdrawn. My health is so entirely undermined that I have no prospect of being able to discharge the duties of the station—& events which have since transpired give me additional motives for withdrawing. It will prevent strife where there should only be union & firm concord—and although my letters assure me that not a doubt exists on the subject of my election, I am not sorry that many of my friends as well as those of the other party will be relieved from the unpleasant necessity of a selection, when it might give them pain to vote against either.

I have recd. letters from Mr. Clay as late as the 12th. of this month. He is conducting himself to my entire satisfaction. The promised answer of

Count Nesselrode is not yet received. It was to have been sent thro' Prince Lieven.[3] I had a good deal of conversation with His Highness on Saturday at Lord Palmerston's—but I did not choose to advert to this subject. His manner to me is invariably not merely courteous, which it is to all, but cordial in the highest degree.

It is uncertain whether I shall be able to return to the U.S. this season. I await with some impatience of the delays of the winds & waves a reply to my letter of the 6th. of April, which went by the Packet of the 8th. & which I hope to receive in the course of the next month.[4] It is I am sure unnecessary for me to declare the sentiments with which I have witnessed the illiberal & unfair opposition to you. Betide what may, I can offer you the assurance of at least one disinterested & zealous supporter however feeble & insignificant he may be.

With fervent wishes for your welfare & prosperity I remain Dear Sir your obliged & faithful friend & Servant

John Randolph of Roanoke

ALS, DLC (39).

1. William IV's birthday was officially celebrated on May 28, though he was born on August 21. Henry John Temple (1784–1865), Viscount Palmerston, later prime minister, was at this time Foreign Secretary in the Grey administration.

2. A parliamentary general election in May returned 370 Whig members to 235 Tories. A bill to reform the system of parliamentary representation was a leading Whig measure.

3. Karl Robert Nesselrode (1780–1862) was Russia's minister of foreign affairs. Randolph and his deputy John Randolph Clay (1808–1885), secretary of the American legation at St. Petersburg, were awaiting Nesselrode's answer to American proposals for a commercial treaty and a treaty governing maritime rights in wartime. Nesselrode had told Clay in January that preoccupation with European affairs had delayed his reply, but that as soon as circumstances permitted one would be sent to Randolph in London through Prince Lieven (*HRExdoc* 111, 33d Cong., 1st sess., pp. 49–51, Serial 726). Clay continued to inquire for a response, until on August 10 Nesselrode told him not to expect one soon (DNA-RG 59, M35-12).

4. AJ had answered Randolph's letter of April 6 on May 26 (both above).

From Charles Rhind

New York 30th. May 1831

Sir

At the moment of my departure from Washington I received a packet containing a Commission as Consul for Odessa. Your Excellency not having as yet expressed your opinion respecting the conduct of my Colleagues in the Turkish Mission & as Mr. Hamilton has communicated your wish that such expression shall be deferred until after the ratification of the Treaty, by the Sublime Porte, I bow with deference to your desire it is however placing me in a very unpleasant situation to have to return to that Country, where both our Country and myself, were so degradingly insulted, without some testimonial, that I had acted correctly. the

circumstances will however enable me to obtain some other testimonials which added to the mass already in possession of Government, will enable Your Excellency to decide advisedly for I repose the fullest confidence, that you will not permit a Citizen to be treated as I was, with impunity.

Until Your Excelly. however decides upon that subject, I could not in justice to my feelings, nor to the character of a high minded Citizen allow myself to hold a Commission from the U. States, and therefore I have with every possible assurance of respect & gratitude, returned it to the Department of State.[1] When Your Excelly. shall have decided on the merits of the case alluded to, I would feel myself highly gratified, should I be honored again with a Commission from Your Exclly.

When I went to Russia, knowing that American Vessels were on the way to that quarter, I appointed John Ralli Eqr. of Odessa, to be Vice Consul, he is one of the richest & most respectable Merchants, understands perfectly our language, & with whom my Son will be connected in American business. I therefore respectfully beg leave to recommend him to Your Excelly as Consul, and also Henry Schielin Esqr. of Taganrog, a Gentleman of similar qualifications, whom I had appointed Vice Consul at that port. I am persuaded both Gentlemen will fill their stations, with equal honor to themselves & credit to our Country & I would feel much gratified by their appointment.[2]

I cannot close this Letter, without expressing my most lively gratitude for the confidence Your Excellency has been pleased to repose on me. I have endeavored to exercise my utmost zeal & exertions for the benefit of our Country, and I indulge the hope that the time is not far distant, when they will be duly appreciated. With profound respect I have the honor to be Sir Your obt St

Chas Rhind

ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M46-3).

1. Rhind returned his commission as consul at Odessa to Livingston this same day (DNA-RG 59, M459-1).

2. On June 2, AJ issued temporary commissions for Greek-born merchant John Ralli (1785–1859) as consul at Odessa and for Henry Schielin as consul at the Black Sea port of Taganrog. Rhind's son was Charles Rhind Jr. (1810–1908).

June

To Hugh Lawson White

Washington June 1rst. 1831—

My Dear friend

This moment Major F. W. Armstrongs letter of the 22nd. instant has reached me—in which he details a conversation had with you agreable to my request to him before he left this city, in which he concludes as follows. "that if I did believe it necessary either for myself or the country, notwithstanding his (your) objections he (you) would accept."

I trust you know me too well to require any assurance that no consideration of a mere personal nature could induce me to ask at the hands of my friends any thing which would be injurious to them to grant. Much less could I do to one placed in such peculiar & embarrassing circumstances as you are. In my letter to you of the 29th. of April last I stated my conviction that your appointment was under the circumstances of vital importance to the public interest & that it would moreover be particularly gratifying to myself—all subsequent reflection, & information have but served to fortify those opinions & I assure you, my Dr Sir that if you could have been sensible of the deep interest taken in this matter in every part of the union, you could not have hesitated. There has not been one instance since the establishment of the Government in which an appointment has been hailed by the people with more satisfaction than yours, & perhaps not as much.

Wishing to reply by the return mail & not desiring to foreclose you by your declaration to our mutual friend Major F. W. Armstrong from a more deliberate acceptance under your own hand, I have thought it my duty as your sincere friend thus to address you, and keep every thing silent, & confidential, until I receve your answer. your friend

Andrew Jackson

P.S. I trust you will not let the announciation of your having declined the acceptance have any effect in your present course—*that can be placed on a fair footing, and place you, in your final acceptance, on a prouder eminece.*[1]

ALS, DLC (17-1491). Draft in AJ Donelson's hand, DLC (39); Bassett, 4:287. White replied on June 15 (below).

1. The *US Telegraph* had first reported that Livingston, Louis McLane, White, and Woodbury would compose the new Cabinet on April 20. On May 25 the *Globe* announced that White had declined.

From John Overton

I recollect when writing the pamphlet defence of the Executive and his commanding General, in relation to the Seminole War, in 1818—that upon requesting from you, minute information, on every point connected with the campaign, that you furnished me with your orders &c, and placed before me your confidential letter to Mr Monroe, being a copy of the one transmitted to him, as you stated—with Mr John Rheas letter in his own hand writing, which, in substance conveyed the idea, that he had conversed with the President, who shewed him your confidential letter; that he approved of your suggestions &c

I further told you afterwards, that in my opinion that you had done wrong in destroying Mr Rheas letter, which you told me you had done, at his request

And, when at the Hermitage, and before entering on the Campaign, you showed me what I considered a *carte Blanche* of an order, dated I think in Decr. 1817, from the secretary of War, respecting the mode of conducting that War, I cautioned you to be on your guard, for that cabinets here, as in the Courts of Europe might sometimes design to use it as a means of putting down the reputation of an officer[1]

Jno: Overton

[Endorsed by AJ:] The Honble. John Overtons statement Seminole *war* copy in letter Book—2nd. of June 1831 to be carefuly preserved A. J.

ADS, DLC (39). Addressed "Genl. A Jackson Prest of United States Present." Copies by AJ Donelson and William B. Lewis, DLC (73).

1. Calhoun's December 26, 1817, order putting AJ in direct command had instructed him "to concentrate your forces and to adopt the necessary measures to terminate" the Seminole hostilities (*Jackson Papers*, 4:163).

To John Rhea

City of Washington June 2 1831—

Hon Jno. Rhea

On the 6 of Jany 1818 I wrote a confidential letter to Mr. Monroe a copy of which marked A I here enclose you, in which you will find the following expressions. "Let it be signified to me thro any channel, (say, J. Rhea) that the possession of the Floridas would be desirable to the U States & in 60 days it will be accomplished." About the 20 or 22d of

February on my way to Fort Scott I recvd your letter informing me, that Mr. Monroe had shown you my confidential letter to him of the 6 of Jany 1818 & approved thereof; and further, that ample instructions had been, or would be given on that head. In substance going to show, that the course pointed out in my confidential letter to him was approved. I quote from memory—your letter was burned

Towards the rise of Congress, after the debate on the Seminole question in 1819 had closed, you came to me at Strothers Hotel, & enquired if I had recvd such a letter from you, I replied that I had. You then requested me as an old frend, for god sake to burn it as soon as I got home. I promised that I would, & did so. This was done on the 12 of April 1819, & is so endorsed on the margin of my letter Book, opposite, where the confidential letter is recorded

The object of this communication is to request you to say, whether the fact as stated, to wit, your request to me to burn the letter is not correct, & whether that request proceeded from any intimation or suggestion, of Mr. Monroe & Mr. Calhoun, or either of them[.] I am very respectfully &c

Signed Andw Jackson

[Endorsed by Eaton:] A Copy—J. H Eaton 2 June 1831

[Endorsed by AJ:] Copy to Mr. Rhea June 6th. 1831—

Copy in John H. Eaton's hand, DLC (39).

From Robert Mayo

Washington—3rd. June 1831—

Your Excellency will do me the favor to believe, that in offering you the following memorandum, I am only actuated by a desire to contribute any information of facts which may fall in my way, that you may have an opportunity of considering whether they are in any manner deserving of your notice.

The following case has come to my knowledge this morning by pure accident; but it so vitally involves the rights of a free citizen, at the hands of an officer of the Government, under the assumed interposition of his ex-official influence where no authority exists, that I have thought it admissible to mention the case to your Excellency.

The Marshal of this District has a brother-in-law by the name of Key, who now stays at his house under his protection from civil process for the benefit of J. F. Price of this city, on account of board & money lent. Mr. Key boarded with Mr. Price nearly all the last winter, borrowed his

money, & put him to some other expences, to the amt. of sixty odd dollars, without ever paying him a cent. Mr. Price's circumstances making it inconvenient to lay out of his money so unexpectedly, & being unable to procure justice by personal application, he warranted Mr. Key on the different items, & obtained judgements. Mr. Key took up his residence in Col. Ashton's house, & by the interposition of Col. A. bids defiance to the further operation of the law. That is to say—the officer, Mr. Mc.Cue, (a constable) has been forbid by Col. A. to come to his house to disturb his guest. The officer being thus foiled in his efforts to serve execution or obtain security for the debt under the displeasure of Col. A. has tendered Mr. Price his papers, and claimed payment of his costs. Under these circumstances Mr. Price despairs of realising his debt.[1]

I have known Mr. Price all the winter He is an honest, unoffending, good hearted citizen, & of course the more liable to be imposed on. He mentioned his case to me in consequence of Mr. Key's owing me a small sum, as an evidence that I might not expect to get it. It is further stated, that Mr. Key is expecting to get office of the Government, by the influence of his connections here, notwithstanding he has three brothers-in-law & I know not how many other relatives in office already in this District—one in the Genl. Post Office, Mr. Wharton—one in the navy or War Dept., Mr. Riley—& the Marshal. The facts in relation to Col. Ashton's protecting him from the arrest of the Constable, are known to several citizens, & there is no telling how far his exofficial interferance may be deprecated as an aggrievment to the rights of a citizen. Nor can there be any mitigating excuse for Col. A. in this case, as Mr. Key's mother is wealthy, which might insure Mr. Price justice without difficulty.[2]

On a former occasion Col. Ashton told me "he meant to give the appointment of Physician to the Jail, to his son-in-law," a Dr. Stuart, who is a young man, I understand, but recently entered on his profession—an experienced physician Dr. Hunt having occupied the place before him. It would seem to be undervaluing the life & health of unfortunate prisoners, to compell them to accept the medical services of an inexperienced physician, merely under the favoritism of an official connection, when the public at large are so cautious of employing the young & inexperienced in the profession. Col. A. also told me he had promised this appointment to Dr. Stuart *before* he had received that of Marshal himself. I am also informed by good authority, that he made the same *premature* promise to his deputy, Mr. Dyer, notwithstanding it had been thought proper to remove Mr. Dyer from the Post Office.[3]

In the short space of time that I have been here, a multitude of discreditable practices of many of the Clerks in the Departments have been recited & adverted to in my presence. Among other things, the citizens of Washington, merchants, boarding house keepers, Taylors, mechanics, &c, suffer very great impositions from them. Discipated & profligate young men too frequently under plausible pretences, get into office, &

immediately run in debt in every direction, through the confiding weakness of those who are candidates for their custom. Unfortunate persons may receive appointment under the burthen of debt, but they ought to pay those debts contracted on the credit of their salaries, out of that fund. I am credibly informed of one clk. a close associate of a certain Mr. McLean, who was warranted twenty seven times in one day. The same individual owes a colored man about thirty dollars for board of recent contracting, which he tells me he has no hope of getting. He is also an intemperate man. These facts I know, because I know the man & his habits. This is only one case out of numbers, of which I have heard some, much worse, but I do not know them personally.

The multifarious modes of prostituting the character of Clerks here & elsewhere, by political intrigues, fraudulent dealings, and scandalous intercourse on the public streets & avenues, in the high ways & by ways &c. &c. render the office of a Clerk a very odious thing in the estimation of many respectable citizens throughout the Country. It is doubless to protect themselves in this depraved course of life, that the present Corps of Clerks become so clamorous whenever they are visited with an apprehension of the cleansing hand of reform. In *renovating* & *refreshing* the minor ministerial branches of the Government in these respects, a great benefit to the moral example of the community might be derived from requiring a rigid scrutiny and test of their moral conduct and economy. Public officers are more bound in good faith to their country, to be observant of economy & moral proprity, than private citizens; because, so soon as they overreach their salaries, they are tempted to abuse their trust in the public funds if they can, as well as extend their private credit, to the end of defrauding their fellow citizens.

A Corps of moral and economical public officers & clerks would improve every place where they may be located, by realising property & setting a good moral example, instead of defrauding creditors, becoming sots, & ministering to the vices of gambling & debauch, in which they involve & corrupt multitudes of innocent persons, who, from accidental spectators, become *particeps criminis*.[4] The root of the evil might possibly be reached, by interdicting the neglect of office hours by pacing the streets, frequenting tippling houses, & gabbling politics, while they should be at their desks. The unrestrained license of open accounts on the credit of salaries, which is so great a source of fraud, might possibly be corrected by an official test regulation, requiring that such obligations be discharged quarterly.

The appaling extent of the evils above alluded to, can only be appreciated, by opening the Door of Enquiry. The limited acquaintance I have with this description of public officers, here & elsewhere, has brought to my knowledge, the fact, that a great portion of such officers do infinite discredit to their functions, as well as th the fairer character of their associates in office. Their places could be easily filled, by *enquiry* with honest,

industrious, sober, economical, & modest men, who would do violence to their feelings to *ask* for employment, but would be very thankful for it, would do honor to themselves & their country in the discharge of its duties, and greatly advance the future moral condition of society. A periodical rotation would also go a great way to efface the objectionable rancour of party—make officers of the government homogenious with the people & keep them so.

I believe a reform carried out somewhat upon these principles would be in unison with that well earned fame for which your Constituents so heartily revere your name, & so zealously advocate your continuance in that high office which may be made the guarantee of our happy destinies.

I think I could give you a list of a dozen or more clerks, most of whom yet remain in office, who have practised frauds upon a single merchant to a large amount which has no hope of recovering.

[Endorsed by AJ:] Doctor Mayo—*Private*—

AL, DLC (39; 17-1496). Mayo (1784–1864), a physician and journalist from Richmond, Va., held a Post Office Department clerkship in Washington. About this time he gave AJ a list of sixteen government clerks whom he accused of defrauding creditors by declaring insolvency, and two others who were "active & injurious political partizans" (DLC-40, 17-1503; extract in Bassett, 4:291). AJ wrote Edward Livingston and Nicholas Trist about two of Mayo's insolvents, Lemuel W. Ruggles and Samuel J. Carr, on August 1 and 12 respectively (below).

1. "Mr. Key" may have been Thomas White Key (c1802–1874), Upton Scott Key, or John Hall Key (1807–1884), all sons of late Maryland congressman Philip Key (1750–1820) and his second wife, Sophia Hall Key (1765–1833). District of Columbia marshal Henry Ashton's wife was their half-sister. Owen McCue was a District of Columbia constable.

2. The Keys' brother-in-law Charles H. W. Wharton held a Post Office Department clerkship. Their niece Rebecca G. S. Key had married Thomas Brooke Reily (1805–1858), a clerk in the First Comptroller's office. Reily was on Mayo's list of defrauders.

3. Physician Joseph Noble Stuart (c1807–1835) had married Mary Dent Ashton, Henry Ashton's daughter. Henry Huntt (c1782–1838) was a renowned physician and president of Washington's Board of Health. Edward Dyer, who had been removed as a clerk in the Washington post office in 1829, was deputy marshal.

4. A criminal accomplice.

John Rhea to James Monroe

Washington City 3d June 1831

Copy of a letter addressed by the Honble John Rhea of Tennessee to James Monroe late President of the United States dated as above.

Dr. Sir,

Not only with you but with other Presidents of the United States of America have I been in confidence: the Presidents Jefferson and Madison all had confidence in me and I believe you also had equal confidence in

me; and so had Mr. Adams. I am obliged to write to you requesting you to give information to me on the subjects hereafter stated—that is to say.

Did you receive a confidential letter from Andrew Jackson dated sixth January one Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighteen, in which opinions were of his fully expressed and stated respecting the savages then depretating on the lives and property of our people? and in that letter did he state that Amelia Island ought to be taken possession of in pursuance of the order of the Government, at all hazards, and simultaneously the whole of East Florida seized and held as an indemnity for the outrages of Spain upon the property of our citizens—this done it puts all opposition down, secures to our citizens a complete indemnity, and saves us from a war with Great Britain, or some of the continental powers combined with Spain? And in that letter he, wrote to you "this can be done without implicating the Government; let it be signified to me through any channel (say J. Rhea) that the possession of the Floridas would be desireable to the United States and in sixty days it will be accomplished." You did receive that letter of A. Jackson and you will so write to me.

With you I had many confidential conversations respecting Genl A Jackson—if you ask I can tell you the day and time—that confidential letter or the substance of it you did communicate confidentially to me. You approved of the opinions of Andrew Jackson by him stated in that confidential letter and did authorise me so to write to him. I did accordingly write to him. He says he received my letter on his way to Fort Scott and acted accordingly That is he prosecuted the war against the savages, put an end to their ravages and gave security to the people of the United States, and all was done, I believe, pursuant to the desires and expectation of the Government.

After that war was finished a question was raised in your cabinet by some member thereof respecting the authority by which General Jackson acted in carrying on that war; that question was got over in your cabinet. In Congress that question was examined by Cobb's resolutions in the House of Representatives, and Mr. Lacocks committee in the Senate, and passed over.[1]

I do know that Genl Jackson was in Washington City in January in the year one Thousand Eight hundred and nineteen, and you also do so know. My confidential letter, above alluded to, was still, you and I believed, in possession of General Jackson. Some reasons not necessary now to be mentioned, occurred to you, that induced you to request me to request Genl Jackson to burn or destroy that confidential letter of mine to him—in consequence thereof I went to Genl Jackson at his lodgings and did request him to destroy that confidential letter of mine written to him by me in answer to his said confidential letter to you, and he did promise to me that he would destroy it when he went home, and he has informed me that on the 12th. day of April one Thousand Eight Hundred and nineteen he did burn it.

I do request you to answer this letter fully and in a few days, and particularly did you authorise me to write the confidential letter alluded to, to Genl Jackson in answer to his said confidential letter to you—did you afterwards in this city (Washington) when General Jackson was here, request me to go to him, and request him to destroy the said confidential letter of mine to him? be pleased to answer directly and explicitly and fully and soon. You know I always supported you and now let me inform you that it is absolutely necessary for yourself and me that you do fully answer this letter.

I hope you will believe me to be as I have been your sincere friend.

Signed, John Rhea of Tennessee

The undersigned certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original letter in the handwriting of Mr. Rhea taken at his request.

Andrew J. Donelson
Andr. J. May[2]

5th. of June 1831. Washington City.

Copy in AJ Donelson's hand, DLC (73; 17-1507). ALS, DLC-Monroe Papers (mAJs); Copy, DLC (39); Copy, DLC (73). Monroe, in failing health, was in New York at the home of his son-in-law Samuel L. Gouverneur. Gouverneur showed him Rhea's letter on June 19, and Monroe signed a statement in presence of witnesses: "1st. It is utterly unfounded & untrue that I ever authorized John Rhea to write any letter whatever to Genl. Jackson, authorizing or encouraging him, to disobey, or deviate from the orders which had been communicated to him from the Department of War. 2d. That it is utterly unfounded & untrue that I ever desired the said John Rhea to request General Jackson, to destroy any letter written by him the said John Rhea to Genl. Jackson, nor did I at any time, wish, or desire that any letter, document or memorandum, in the possession of Genl. Jackson, or of any other person, relating to my official conduct, in respect of the Seminole war, or any other public matter should be destroyed" (Monroe Papers, DLC; Stanislaus Murray Hamilton, *The Writings of James Monroe* [New York, 1903], 7:234–36). No reply was sent to Rhea. Monroe died July 4.

1. Pennsylvania senator Abner Lacock (1770–1837) had chaired a select committee to investigate the Seminole campaign. On February 24, 1819, he issued a report that severely censured AJ (*SDoc* 100, 15th Cong., 2d sess., Serial 15).

2. Andrew Jackson May (1802–1850) was John Overton's stepson and had accompanied him to Washington.

From George Rockingham Gilmer

Executive Department
Milledgeville 4th June 1831

Sir

By request I enclose to the President a paper signed by very many highly respectable Gentlemen representing the Creek Indians who reside on the

borders of Georgia to be in a miserably starving condition and requesting the interference of the General Government for their relief. Information had been previously received that the lowest class of the Indians were in the most distressing condition. There is no doubt but that great numbers are prepared to remove beyond the Mississippi if the Government would supply them with the means. Whether all can be induced to do so at present is extremely doubtful. The white men half breeds, and wealthy chiefs who reside on the public roads, cultivate rich plantations, own the ferries and bridges and other places of profit, are exempt from the suffering which press upon the mass of the Indian people. The white men can only be controlled by the laws of the State in which they reside. The half breeds and chiefs who are in the possession of the wealth and control the Government of the tribe, will not probably be induced to yield up these advantages, so long as the tribe can be kept together. If the body of the people pass beyond the Mississippi their principal men must follow. They are not prepared to mingle with a white population or to be made members of the same Society & Government.

I would therefore most respectfully suggest to the President the importance of so altering the present plan of the Government for the removal of the Indians to the west of the Mississippi, as to authorize them to enroll for emigration and that they be sent from the States as rapidly as possible.

I would avail myself of the present opportunity of stating to the President that I am engaged in collecting a great variety of facts in relation to the present state of the Cherokees within Georgia with the view of calling his attention to the use of the means which may be found most efficient for carrying into execution the contract of 1802.[1] With sentiments of the most respectful consideration I remain &c

George R Gilmer

LS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-222). LC, G-Ar (17-1518). Eaton replied to Gilmer on June 17 that AJ would consider what could be done to relieve the Creeks' "starving, suffering condition" once their agent reported the facts. However, "it is questionable if it will be consented that they shall be maintained at the expense of the Country, in their idle wandering habits. In our Country are very many poor and suffering people" whom Congress did not relieve, as to do so "would be to foster idleness and dissatisfaction. The Indians cannot be placed on more favorable grounds than the white citizens" even if Congress had power to act for them, which Eaton doubted. He further explained that enrolling individual Indians for emigration would cost twice as much as removing them all at once (DNA-RG 75, M21-7).

1. Gilmer wrote AJ about the Cherokees on June 20 (below).

[Enclosure: Garland B. Terry et al. to AJ]

Columbus Georgia May 31st. 1831

Sir

The undersigned, Citizens of Columbus, Georgia would respectfully represent to the President of the United States, that the deplorable condition of the Creek Indians located within the limits of Alabama demands the immediate pecuniary aid and parental care of the General Government

For the last six months the most intense suffering has pervaded the Creek Nation in Alabama and your memorialists are daily witnesses of the wretched situation of the Indians and can confidently aver that they have never seen greater misery and want It is a fact notorious to evry individual residing on the borders of the Creek Territory that in evry part of it are large bodies of Indians in a state of actual starvation with no means or expectation of relief unless the assistance of the Government be extended to them In the white settlements ajacent to them they are daily begging from house to house for the means of subsistence from hour to hour They have abandoned their homes thrown themselves in crowds at the doors of the whites relying alone for existence on the mercies and charitis of the community, and if they are not speedily relieved by some general and systematic plan great numbers of them must inevitably perish This distress is not confined to a limited portion of the Indians but embraces hundreds and infinitely more than can possibly be preserved from destruction by the most liberal contributions of the surrounding country.

The undersigned would further represent that the present is an auspicious time for the prosecution of the plan of emigration and that if a door were now opened for the reception of Emigrants they would enrol themselves more rapidly than it would be possible to remove them to Arkansas.

If the President of the United States should in his judgement deem it proper to establish an agency for the enrolment of emigrants or otherwise decide to furnish supplies for the relief of those Indians who are in absolute misery and want we would respectfully but most earnestly recommend *Mr Abner Chapman* of this Town as a gentleman who from his long residence in the vicinity of the Creek Nation his constant and unlimited intercourse and his extensive acquaintance and influence with the Creek Indians is eminently qualified to discharge the duties of Enrolling or Supplying Agent.[1]

Garland B Terry
J. Reister
Asa Bates
Hampton S Smith
Jno. Warner

[120 additional signatures follow.]

DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-222).

1. Abner Chapman (c1784–1845) was a trader with the Creeks.

From John Stoney et al.

CHARLESTON, June 5.

SIR:

The undersigned, on behalf of their fellow citizens of the Union and State Rights Party, have the honor to invite you to a dinner given on the approaching 4th of July, in celebration of the Anniversary of Independence. Had we regarded this return of the birth day of our nation, as an era of merely ordinary import, we should not perhaps have taken the liberty to present ourselves to you—but the case is far otherwise.

As a native of the State of South Carolina, and one whom she has always delighted to honor, we do not doubt sir, that you have felt such interest in the expressions of sentiment and opinion, which have been elicited during the progress of affairs among us, as to be fully aware of the great line of distinction drawn between the several parties in this state—as well as of the portentous omens, which threaten us with civil convulsion. It is well known to you, and to the world, that the late political discussions and events have tended to loosen those bonds of fraternal affection, which once united the remotest parts of our great empire. Geographical limits, are familiarly referred to as connected with separate and disjointed interests; and too many of our youth are growing up, as we fear and deeply lament, in the dangerous belief that these interests are incompatible and contrasted.

We conceive it, Sir, to be a matter of infinite importance to our country, that these fatal errors should be promptly corrected, and the feelings which they engender, thoroughly eradicated; that the ancient ties of friendship may once more rivet closely together, the several members of our happy confederacy. It is our especial aim to revive in its full force, the benign spirit of Union—to renew the mutual confidence in each others good will and patriotism; without which the laws and statutes, and forms of Government of these States will exist in vain. We disclaim from the bottom of our hearts, all political or party purposes, of a local nature, or of circumscribed extent. We esteem as brethren, and associates, *all* who cordially unite with us in devotion to our common country, and in the firm resolution to defend her institutions, and transmit them, unimpaired to the generations that shall succeed us. Your sentiments in relation to this subject, are well known, and have been repeatedly announced, and we are proud to regard you Sir, as one of our fathers and leaders.

In this spirit, and with these views, we request the honor of your presence with us, on the approaching occasion. The citizens of Charleston have flattered themselves with the hope, that you would be able, without inconvenience, to comply with the invitation urged some time since through the municipal authorities. May we be permitted to indicate the period of your visit, so far as, that it shall include the Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

With the most respectful consideration, Sir, we have the honor to be Your Excellency's obedient servants,

John Stoney
George W. Cross
Rene Godard
Francis Y. Porcher
John Strohecker

[Eight additional signatures follow.]

Printed, Charleston, S.C., *City Gazette*, July 6, 1831 (mAJs). *Niles*, July 16 (17-1524). This invitation and AJ's June 14 reply (below) were read at the Union celebration in Charleston on July 4. Stoney (1780–1838) and Rene Godard (1760–1845) were Charleston merchants. George Warren Cross (1783–1836) was a lawyer and sometime state legislator, Francis Yonge Porcher (1789–1862) was a Charleston physician, and John Strohecker (1776–1849) was an ironmonger.

To Samuel Delucenna Ingham

Monday June the 6th. 1831—

The President with his respects to Mr. Ingham acting Secretary of the Treasury, & informs him that he has been notified by the Mayor of the city of Washington that they canal commissioners are to have a meeting to day at which they desire the United States to be represented.[1] The President requests to be informed whether it will be convenient for Mr Ingham to attend the proposed meeting, & if inconvenient, whether it would not be advisable to authorise some person to attend as the representative of the U States.

AN, PU-Ingham Papers (17-1531). Philadelphia *American Sentinel*, July 19, 1831; *Niles*, July 23. AJ addressed the note to "Mr. S. De Ingham acting Secretary of the Treasury." Ingham replied June 7 (below).

1. On June 6 the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company held its annual stockholders meeting, chaired by Washington mayor John Peter Van Ness (1770–1846). The U.S. owned stock in the canal.

From Louis McLane

London June 6. 1830.

Dear Sir,

I received on the 2nd. instant, Mr. Van Buren's public despatch of the 26th. April, granting me permission to return home according to the request made in my despatch of the 22nd. of February last; and conveying your wish that I should undertake the duties of the office of Secretary of the Treasury, recently become vacant by the resignation of Mr. Ingham.

I fully appreciate this new proof of your confidence, and, if the present emergency require my services, the interest I feel for your own just renown, and for the wellfare of the Country, as involved in the success of your administration, would not permit me to withhold them.

I will, therefore, repair without loss of time to the United States; and if on my arrival at Washington, my acceptance of the office of Secretary of the Treasury can promote the harmony of the Cabinet, strengthen the administration and subserve the public interests, I will cheerfully enter upon its duties.

I have to observe, however, that in consequence of your letter of the 10th. March, requesting me to remain here until the Autumn, I was obliged to take a house for that period; and that this, with some other arrangements resulting from the same cause, will unavoidably delay my departure until the 22nd inst. or the 1st. of July; but of this I shall be able to speak more positively by the Packet of the 16th. instant.

In the mean time I pray leave to offer my sincere wishes for your public and private prosperity, and to add assurances of the respect and regard with which I have the honor to be dear Sir, faithfully, Your obedient Servant.

Louis McLane.

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr McLane London—

ALS, DLC (38; 17-1550). McLane and his family sailed on the packet *President* on June 20 and reached New York on July 28.

From John Randolph

London June 6th. 1831.

My dear Sir,

I take the liberty to enclose to your care a letter for our friend Mr. Van Buren.[1] I have read with deep & intense interest the correspondence between you. at this distance & with my imperfect knowledge of the state of affairs it may be presumptuous in me to give an opinion, but by such lights as I have the step taken by him seems manly & judicious & I trust that it will be found in the sequel to promote the interests of your administration & his own happiness. of one thing I am certain, that the reply to his letter is worthy of all praise & must extort the admiration of the bitterest foes of the writer. I do most devoutly hope that the successors of himself & colleagues may give the most cordial & efficient co-operation to your plans for the benefit of our common country & that you may enjoy every comfort & happiness that can be found associated with the cares of government.

The brave Poles continue to perform prodigies of valour that should crimson the face of Europe with shame. Some gleams of hope that England & France may successfully interfere in their behalf are held out, but I fear they will prove delusive.

Mr. Clay continues to conduct himself to my entire satisfaction & I beg leave to repeat my recommendation of him to your favour. I have no doubt that he would be glad to be transferred to London or Paris in case of vacancy—although I have no authority from him for saying so.[2]

Believe me dear Sir with the greatest respect & regard, your faithful friend & Servant

J. R of Roanoke

P.S. My own health continues to be very bad.

ALS, DLC (39).

1. Randolph enclosed a June 3 letter to Van Buren praising his political course (Van Buren Papers, DLC). AJ forwarded it to Van Buren on July 25 (below).

2. John Randolph Clay remained at St. Petersburg as secretary of legation and chargé d'affaires until 1837.

From Joseph Bonaparte

Pointe Breeze, 7 June 1831

Mr. President,

I have received the letter you kindly wrote me on May 23. I hastened to welcome Madame Gratz as well as the painful circumstances in which I find myself permitted, having received bad news from my family. Madame Gratz seems to me in every way worthy of the interest you take in her.

Would it presume too much, given the sentiments you were kind enough to express to me, Sir, to request your intervention with the Postmaster General that he might give the Trenton postmaster instructions to deliver my letters to the servant whom I send every Sunday at seven in the morning, when the office is open for the delivery of letters from Trenton. The postmaster refuses to deliver my letters on Sunday, because I do not live in Trenton, delaying until Monday afternoon the receipt of my letters, that is to say for almost thirty-six hours.[1]

General Bernard, who is here on his return from France, may wish to undertake to explain to Your Excellency the nature of my request, and to the Postmaster General, should he receive the permission of your Excellency.

Please accept, Sir, the high regard with which I have the honor to be

Joseph Cte de Survilliers

Translation. Printed (in French), "Two Years with Old Hickory," *Atlantic Monthly* 60 (August 1887): 195 (mAJs). Abstract, Christie's sale 8095 (1998), lot 8. Joseph Bonaparte (1768–1844), older brother of Napoleon Bonaparte, had been King of Spain from 1808 to 1813. Since 1815 he had lived in the United States under the name Comte de Survilliers. His Point Breeze estate was near Bordentown, N.J. Maria Cecil Gist Gratz (1797–1841) of Lexington, Ky., was Francis P. Blair's sister-in-law. On May 23 AJ had written Bonaparte introducing Gratz, saying she was "a particular friend" he had known since her infancy and that he presented her as "the first step in the cultivation of an acquaintance with you hereafter" (MWalA, 17-1409).

1. The postmaster at Trenton was Jane Wilson, widow of New Jersey senator and Trenton postmaster James Jefferson Wilson, who had died in 1824. Blair wrote Mrs. Gratz on June 15 that her visit had relieved Bonaparte's problems with the mail, as Barry, at AJ's direction, had given instructions to comply with his wishes (*Atlantic Monthly*, August 1887, p. 194).

From Samuel Delucenna Ingham

Washington 7 June 31

Sir

on my return this evening from an excursion to Annapolis, I found on my table a note from you on business in which you have been pleased to designate me as "*acting Secretary of the Treasury*," as I have received no "acting" appointment, this note suggests a form and tenure of office, as I apprehend wholly unknown to the Law, and having been adopted on this occasion for the first time it indicates a new official relation which deeming to be illegal I cannot consent to make myself responsible for by continuing to perform the duties of the Treasury Dept under that character. I have the honor to be respectfully your obt serv

S D Ingham

ALS, DLC (39). LC, PU-Ingham Papers (mAJs). Philadelphia *American Sentinel*, July 19, 1831; *Niles*, July 23.

To Samuel Delucenna Ingham

June 8th. 1831—

The President with his respects to Mr Ingham, acknowledges the receipt of his note of the 7th. which he has this moment recd; Its contents he has read with surprise. Surely at no time, has he in any way attempted any indignity, or any thing that could wear such an appearence, to any gentleman who has been connected with him in the government. It ought not nor cannot be conceived that a note hastily written, addressed "acting," when it should have been Secretary of the Treasury, should be considered an indignity offered, or could diminish or alter the authority under which

he was ~~acting~~ transacting the duties of the Department. The President in justice to himself, informs him that it was not intended to alter them.

AN draft, DLC (39). Philadelphia *American Sentinel*, July 19, 1831; *Niles*, July 23. Ingham replied on June 9 (below).

From Robert Butler

Confidential

Lake Jackson June 9th. 1831.

My Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your letter by Colo R. W. Williams, had previously received your letter by Genl. Call and one by mail antecedent. I have delayed their acknowledgement from a desire to give the subjects therein contained a particular and patient examination and which I have been prevented from doing owing to the state of my health and that of my family until very recently. During the latter part of the winter we were all afflicted with the Influenza which seems to have been general throughout the United States: with us it has lingered long and has been very troublesome effecting the neck glands and producing sore throat with considerable fever. In addition to these symptoms, it fastened on my lungs, and threatened serious consequences and accompanied with a distressing cough, and it is but now, that I flatter myself with a return of health without injuring my lungs. As the disease abated in my children, we became alarmed from reports of small pox, and I had them inoculated with the Cow pox or vaccine matter, the taking effect, of which brought back all the glandular effects previously experienced and accompanied with the bad cough. I now have the satisfaction to think that our prospects for good health, are as flattering and promising as has uniformly attended us during our residence in Florida.

Entering upon the subject above alluded to I shall be explicit; giving you the convictions of my mind growing out of my first acquaintance with Mr. Calhoun and a most particular and attentive observation of passing events up to the present. When in Washington in the winter of 1818–19—finding the course which Congress appeared to be taking on the Seminole Question, I wrote you that I deemed it necessary that you should be present at Washington—having done so I communicated this fact to our friend Bronaugh who held the then Secretary of War in high estimation—the succeeding evening whilst at the French Minister's Mr. Calhoun came to me, and enquired in a tone somewhat abrupt, what could induce me to write for Genl. Jackson to come on to the city (Bronaugh having informed him that I had done so) to which I replied perhaps as sternly—*that he may in person have justice done him*—the Secrety. turned on his heel and so ended the conversation but there was a something inexplicable in the

countenance that subsequent events have given meaning to.[1] After your arrival at Washington we were on a visit at the Secretarys and examing a map, (the Yellow Stone expedition of the Secretarys, being the subject of conversation), Mr. Laycock of the Senate was announced to the Secretary who remarked do not let him come in now, Genl. Jackson is here, but will soon be gone when I can see him—there was nothing strange in all this, but the whispered manner and apparent agitation fastened on my mind the idea that Mr. Calhoun and Laycock understood each other on the Seminole matter, such were my reflections at the time.[2] I have reason to believe now, that both Secretarys through their bosom friends Mr Laycock and Mr. Cobb, were behind the curtain, however inimical to each other were equally so to you. When you were Governer of Florida you received an Anonymous letter which you were disposed to place to the door of Mr. Crawford, I have always believed the Treasury had not the sense for such a *Coup de main* and have given the credit to the War Department for the following reason.[3] Mr. Calhoun believed he could command South & North Carolina Pensylvania and the chances of Virginia, Maryland and the small states of Delaware and Jersey. Mr. Crawford in all probability might beat him unless he could by some bold stroke break in upon his strength, to effect which you were the only man whose popularity could be efficient, and this in conjunction with the distant sound that your name would be run, gave him the delightful prospect of seeing Clay and Crawford *cut in two in the middle* and bringing him second best at any rate before the Congress of the United States, when sooner than have an Eastern President all would unite on him. To bring you out of the wilds of Florida, he or some one at his request threw out this great bait as they imagined. How confident were Mr. Calhoun and his friends of succeeding *about this time*, I learned from a letter shewn by Carey Nicholas from Colo. Gadsden who was then Adjt. Genl. at the War Office, when I joined you in Pensacola 1821 from St. Augustine.[4] He remarked Mr. Calhoun is now in the field and we must all unite and carry him through; but alas that *old mother of mine* subsequently kicked, and refused to let the Secretary mount her Car and triumphantly shouldered Old Hickory and the Secretary left *Horse de combat*—"A Kingdom for a Horse" cried King Richard, a Horse was found called *Vice* President, and the Secretary mounted determined to ride into the Haven of greatness *constitutionally* as it was impossible for Old Hickory to live 2 years.[5] Recurring back to the *book*, Mr. Calhoun admits to you what he denied in positive terms to Colo: Hamilton in a conversation on the same subject, hence your charge of duplicity is fully made out; but this has not surprised me, as I have long since learned that I believed Mr. C. was without exception the most ambitious man in this nation and nothing but age to temper his ambition would ever make him a safe and sound politician. I believe most religiously, and that founded on facts which have been developed but glimmeringly that Mr. Calhoun on his arrval at Washington in 1829

gave an entire new tone to the Telegraph, and that a deep intrigue was then set on foot to supercede you at the end of your present term and that Calhoun, Mc.Lean, Tyler, Tazwell, &c. &c. with what aid the Coalition indirectly afforded them; *with their own grand puppet the King maker and self puffer Duff Green* (who was to be a foreign Minister at least) was determined to effect their Object, hence your nominations were to be controlled your ministers attacked, thereby intimating, that you possessed not the governing principle but that there was a "power behind greater than the Throne."[6] The publication of the Book and the resignation of your Cabinet, together with the rich Harvest of greatness which you have reaped into your national granary in the persons of Livingtson, White, McLane and Woodbury, has made them all look, as Milton said of the Devil when thrown from the battlements of Heaven into the infernal pit; they are "Dumb, confounded."[7] I shall tire your patience but I must add a few remarks which I know will not be unpleasant.

I have to regret that a necessity exists for your continuation beyond one term, but there are considerations of so much importance to this nation growing out of your election, that were you worn to the quick and the last expiring ray of light and life in the socket; these considerations require the sacrifice. An amendment of the constitution rendering the President ineligible after one term. The payment of the National debt, the keeping down this system misnamed the American & which I call the splendid misery system; the adoption of something definite with regard to National Improvements, & a system of distribution of the surplus Revenue of which there should always be some. When I see these things chained like the bear upon the sign post, then let the scramble come for the election of Presidents provided it is kept out of Hucksters hands on the floor of Congress. You have done greatly in the restoration of our foreign relations, and upon the grand Indian Question and time will mature the apple when we shall be freed from such perplexing questions of sovereignty, and the Indians much more happily situated in every point of view. The requim has been sung over Nullification and our "Union must be preserved."[8] The disturbed state of Europe will require a watchful guardianship of our rights and if there is one trait of Character for the station of State Minister wanting in Mr. Livingston, it will be found in *necessary energy of decision*; I may be mistaken, but you can supply the deficiency. To Judge White and Mr Livingston I beg to be kindly rememembered: and I congratulate you most heartily on the complexion of your new Cabinet entire. I have just seen Mr. Branch's letter to a friend in Carolina. How small, alas! will great men sometimes dwindle.

I will claim your attention but a few moments more. I have a very fine crop in prospect, much larger and better than heretofore. My family may be said to be well. We desire to be affectionately remembered to all our friends with you. Mrs. Butler and myself long very much to see you, but how or when this will be accomplished, god only knows. Rachel often

reminds me of the fire side of the Hermitage in all its endearing recollections, and fancy too heavily pressed gives way to the reality that *your Bird of Paradice no longer dwells within it*. May we all unite in a Heaven of rest *knowing and known* "where the wicked cease from trouble and the weary are at rest."[9] God bless you.

Robert Butler

Please, let me know you receive this. B.

ALS, DLC (39).

1. Butler had written AJ from Washington on December 15, 1818, urging him to come to the city (*Jackson Papers*, 4:256–57). AJ's friend, Army Assistant Surgeon General James Craine Bronaugh (1788–1822), was in Washington with Butler. Jean-Guillaume Hyde de Neuville (1776–1857) was then French minister to the U.S.

2. In 1819, Calhoun's War Department mounted an Army expedition up the Missouri River with the aim of establishing a post at the mouth of the Yellowstone in present North Dakota. The expedition stalled short of its goal in 1820.

3. AJ was governor of Florida Territory from March to November 1821. On October 29, an anonymous "Friend" wrote him from Augusta, Ga., warning that Monroe, driven by jealousy of AJ's popularity, had leagued with Crawford to crush him politically. Concluding that the letter was a Crawford trick to estrange him from Monroe, AJ sent Monroe a copy to put him on guard against "duplicity and treachery" (*Jackson Papers*, 5:112–14, 160–63).

4. Cary Nicholas (1786–1829) had served as an Army major and paymaster under AJ. He was discharged in 1821 and settled in Pensacola. AJ's friend James Gadsden was adjutant general of the Army in 1821–22. AJ, Crawford, Clay, Calhoun, and "Eastern" candidate Adams were all presidential aspirants in 1824.

5. Shakespeare, *Richard III*, 5.4.7. Butler's "old mother" was his native state, Pennsylvania, whose nomination of AJ ended Calhoun's presidential hopes in 1824.

6. In the House of Lords on March 2, 1770, William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, decried the Earl of Bute's secret influence on George III, charging "that there is something behind the throne greater than the King himself" (*The Parliamentary History of England*, 16:841–43).

7. John Milton, *Paradise Lost*, 6.871: "confounded *Chaos* roard."

8. A paraphrase of AJ's celebrated April 13, 1830, dinner toast (*Jackson Papers*, 8:190).

9. Job 3:17.

From Samuel Delucenna Ingham

Washington 8 Jun 31[1]

Sir

your note of last evening has removed the difficulty which had arisen in my mind in consequence of that of Monday. The duties of the office will be attended to as usual untill the weights & measures shall be so arranged that the work can progress without embarrassment,

I have the honor to be with great respect your obt st

S D Ingham

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr Ingham of the 9th. 1831—

ALS, DLC (39). LC, PU-Ingham Papers (mAJs). Philadelphia *American Sentinel*, July 19, 1831; *Niles*, July 23. On May 29, 1830, the Senate had adopted a resolution directing the Secretary of the Treasury to compare the standard weights and measures employed at the principal custom houses and report to the Senate at its next session. Ingham had sent the Senate an interim report on the uncompleted work on March 3, 1831 (*SDoc* 168, 22d Cong., 1st sess., pp. 2–3, Serial 214). He wrote AJ about it on June 20 (below).

1. The newspaper text of this letter, furnished by Ingham, was correctly dated June 9.

From George Reese et al.

The undersigned, availing themselves of a privilege which monarchs concede to their subjects, and which, with the presiding officer of a free people, will not, we are persuaded, be reluctantly allowed to early and devoted friends, the privilege of unreserved communication with the head of government, beg leave to lay before your excellency the following frank and able expose of the state of public sentiment in this section of the Union.

It was a favorite maxim with the most popular of your predecessors, that no course, however consonant with the welfare, should be pursued in opposition to the wishes of the people. This rule is not less sound as a principle, than expedient as a policy; and prudence as well as patriotism has, we are assured, obtained for it your approbation, though it has failed in some instances to secure your support; it becomes, under the present state of things, the duty of every honest friend to apprise you, that whatever may be the impression at Washington, the course of the administration, so far as it concerns this section of the Union, has not been in accordance with this rule. To say that the course of the administration, *after* the election, was regarded by the party with surprise, were to say nothing. They witnessed with feelings that mocked expression, the faction which had denounced you openly as a Nero and a Cataline, which supported you from motives of intimate interest alone, and which still breathed against you "curses not loud, but deep," taken by the hand and led before the astonished eyes of your original friends to the high places of your administration.[1] Office after office was filled, and yet no token was given of your remembrance that there was an original Jackson party existent. Vastly superior in numbers, with the memorials of services and sacrifices, early action, and disinterested, they found themselves rewarded with chilling indifference, or humiliating contumely; excluded from your confidence, and presented to the eyes of your and their enemies, as too stupidly and slavishly faithful to deserve respect or require conciliation. Is not this, every tittle of it, true? And what is the result? Such as might have been anticipated—a sullen indisposition to move in your behalf, is with your original friends almost universal, and will continue, until they cease to consider themselves the mere purveyors of office and honor for their ancient and bitter foes. With such men they cannot consent to act

an under part, event, to secure the election of Andrew Jackson; nor can they, indeed, feel a very deep interest in that even while they see such men basking in the sunshine of executive power, confidence, and patronage; while delusive promises are considered a sufficient boon for those *without whom he never could have got the vote of Pennsylvania, and without whom, permit us frankly to assure you, he can never get it again.*

Under these circumstances, we would respectfully, but earnestly, ask your excellency, is it possible, patient and long suffering as we have shown ourselves! is it possible—that the party can continue much longer to cling to an administration which seems thus solicitous to discard and repudiate it? It is not. Injury has been accumulated on injury; one tie has been broken after another; and little now remains to attach the original Jackson party to the administration, save the attenuated shreds of those neglected principles which at first connected them. What those principles are, and how they were urged in your support by your original friends in 1824, your memory will yet, we trust, remind you:

Restriction of the presidential office to one term.

Opposition to the system of perverting patronage to personal and political ends.

Opposition to the appointment of members of congress to office.

Opposition to the infringement of senatorial privileges.

And opposition to the evasion of constitutional checks.

The appointment to and continuance in office of federalists, and men otherwise obnoxious to the democratic party, &c. &c. are principles still, and as warmly as at first, cherished by your original friends in this state. How far the total neglect and proscription of the party may drive them to a *second vindication of their principles*, time and your future course will make manifest.

The consequence of this defection could not but be dangerous, perhaps fatal to the cause in Pennsylvania. Yet we are not ignorant that you have the most confident assurances from those whose interest you have it to deceive you, of the undiminished devotion of Pennsylvania to your administration. It is the trite tale of adulation, and may in the present, as in past instances, lead to disappoint and neglect. When we assure you, that this assurance originates with those whose political importance depends upon its credit; that these men, thus boastful, date their entrance into the party from their defeat by the overwhelming superiority of the original Jackson party; and that the original Jackson men are now, almost without exception, either wavering in their support, or decided in their opposition; you cannot but receive it with caution. *We do not hesitate to declare positively, that Pennsylvania is not secure to you.*

We know that it can give as little pleasure to hear as to communicate such truths—candor is no courtly virtue, but our duty to the party, and devotion to yourself, have compelled us to the task, however ungrateful. It is better that official eminence should be fanned by the wholesome

breath of public opinion, than that it should respire with false security in the heated and corrupt air of falsehood and flattery, *until roused by the hurricane of public condemnation.*

This paper is signed by—

George Reese, Esq. High Sheriff.
Henry S. Hughes, Esq. Auditor of the county.
Charles Mead,
Gen. John D. Goodwin,
John Conrad, Esq.

[Seven more names "and others" follow.]

Printed, Philadelphia *United States' Gazette*, August 2, 1831 (mAJs). *Nat. Intelligencer*, August 5, 1831 (17-1574). This "protocol" was furnished to the *Gazette* by "A REFORMED JACKSON MAN" who explained that it was drawn up pursuant to a meeting of "original Jackson men" on June 3 and sent to AJ on June 10. The *Intelligencer*'s reprinting corrected several apparent textual errors in the *Gazette* original. George Reese, or Rees (1762–1841) had been elected Philadelphia sheriff in 1829. Henry S. Hughes (c1803–1831) was an accountant, Charles Mead was a teacher, and John D. Goodwin (d. 1842) was an auctioneer.

1. Shakespeare, *Macbeth*, 5.3.27.

From James Gadsden

Private & Confidential

Wascissa
11 June 1831

My Dear General

The election for Delegate has terminated, and White will be returned by a small majority. I have lost the office, but my friends think have won the victory in the very large & respectable vote voluntarily conferred by my fellow citizens, without any appeals of a humiliating character on my part.

I yielded to the wishes of my friends in again becoming a candidate with a hope of being publickly useful to the Territory, and from the desire of some active honorable employment. After near 5 years experience, attended with much personal labor, many privations, and no inconsiderable pecuniary sacrifice, I am forced to the acknowledgement that Horaces', Otium cum dignitatæ, of Country life is only to be found in the immagination of the Poet.[1] At least to me the occupation of a Farmer has not the attractions anticipated; and as yet I have realized none of ~~my~~ the expectations in relation to my agricultural operations. I presume I could live & perhaps comfortably by farming; but my early habits and associations are averse to those I am compelled to conform to, and I daly feel the want of mental excitement, or that animation which public life, and congregating with intellectual associates invariably produces. I have concluded therefore to address you with my usual confidence, that

with a knowledge of my wishes you may, if you feel so disposed, without injury to the superior claims & qualifications of others, or detriment to the public interest, confer upon me some honorable public employment. Having resolved to quit for a time my present pursuit, and giving as I do a preference to service in my Country; I have believed that the communication of this intention & wish on my part would be received with a spirit of friendship on yours, and as an additional evidence of that unreserved & confiding disposition which has characterised my intercourse with you.

I have conveyed this letter to you by a private source; for it is *confidential* & intended for no other *eye* but *yours*. I am aware that through the ordinary channel of communication all letters to you, in common with the other public officers of high station, are unavoidably exposed to the passing inspection of others. This letter is intended however for *you alone*. For I would not be considered an applicant for any office. Communicating my views I wish the subject left to your own sense of obligation to the public good; with the assurance on my part, that whatever place you might think proper to call me to would be unacceptable if not tendered more as a tribute to my supposed qualifications, than to our long personal friendship. I subscribe myself as usual Your friend

James Gadsden

[Endorsed by AJ:] Gadsden—private—friendly letter—answered July 21rst. 1831—rough answer within A. J.

ALS, DLC (39). AJ replied on July 21 (below).

1. The phrase *otium cum dignitate*, or "leisure with dignity," derives from Cicero rather than Horace. Joseph M. White had previously defeated Gadsden for Florida Territory congressional delegate in 1827 and 1829.

From Mary Ann Eastin

Nashville June 12th 1831

Nothing My Dear Uncle could have prevented me from writing to you for such a length of time, but the fear of intruding when I knew you must be engaged in business of the greatest importance; but I hope My Dear Uncle is greatly relieved by an event, which though painful as it must have been to him I cannot forbear congratulating him on; as riding you a great deal of embarrassment & difficulty, and ensuring the future happiness harmony & prosperity of your administration, which I sincerely hope and believe will come out *altogether triumphant*.

I received a few days since your kind and affectionate letter; sincerely my Dear Uncle have I sympathised with you in all the difficulties you have had lately, but hope & trust they will be speedily ended so that yourself

& Uncle Andrew will come to a satisfactory understanding, & he henceforward stand in the relation, he has hitherto done, of son to the best of Fathers; and if the wishes of one who has no other merit, than that of being devotedly & affectionately attached to you, have any weight, this will be the case; but as I have the greatest confidence in the "*wisdom integrity* & *firmness*" of My Dear Uncle, I know he will do whatever is most proper for the advancement of his *own* & *Country's* glory; and whatever betide prosperity or adversity he may be assured a heart, which has all the affection of a daughter, which will sympathise with & feel all his anxieties & troubles, & glory in all his triumphs.

I came to town yesterday for the purpose of seeing the examination of my sister Eliza—left all well in the country.[1] Aunt Emily & the children are well at present, Mary Rachel has had two spells of sickness since Uncle Andrew left but is entirely recovered.

I have visited the Hermitage lately several times. Uncle Stockly Phila Ann myself with two gentlemen from Nashville (one of them Mr Patton late of Penna) spent an evening there during strawberry time & were kindly & hospitably entertained. Uncle Coffee & family had left us before I received your letter—he has I believe declined taking Mary on for the present, Uncle McLemore nor himself being able to leave home for the present. Uncle McLemore writes you by this mail, his family are well, Mary is quite grown & is a very accomplished amiable girl, she has a present for you (a map) which is said by judges to exceed any thing ever seen in the Typograthical department. We are expecting Andrew daily I shall be delighted to see him, to hear all about you & my Washington acquaintances. The breast-pin which you say he will hand me will be gratefully received, & dearly prized while I live as invaluable, for both your sakes. I have just seen Mr [Berry]hill's family who desire to be kindly [remem] bered to you, Harriet Nowland has a fine son which she calls for you—she says she flatters herself he looks a little like you & hopes he may in the least resemble you,[2]

I have the satisfaction to tell you that I have just received the dress you were so kind as to send me, it came safe to hand.

All desire to be affectionately remembered. In hopes of hearing from you soon I remain My Dear Uncle your ever affectionate and devoted child.

M A Eastin

[Endorsed by AJ:] Miss. Mary a. Eastin answered in part 3d July 1831—A. J.

ALS, DLC (39).

1. Mary Ann's sister Elizabeth Donelson Eastin (1817–1839) was studying at the Nashville Female Academy.

2. William McLean Berryhill (1785–1836) was a Nashville merchant. Harriet Craig Berryhill Nowland (1809–1864) was his daughter. Her son, Andrew Jackson Nowland (1831–1832), was born in April.

From William Carroll

Nashville, June 13. 1831.

My dear Sir,

On Saturday evening I received your very acceptable communication of the 29th. of May.

I regret extremely that Judge White did not accept the appointment of Secretary of War. In him you would have had a long tried, faithful and efficient friend; and what is of equal consequence he would have carried with him the confidence of the nation. But it is not astonishing that he refused the office. His family afflictions have been so great that he doubtless prefers spending a portion of his time in retirement, to constant employment in a public office.

It must be gratifying to observe, that the change in your Cabinet is so well received every where. It is a very severe blow to the opposition, who had determined to make the old Cabinet one of their leading hobbies; but now they can say nothing in Justice against the gentlemen you have appointed, either as to capacity, integrity or disposition for future advancement. Should you be so fortunate as to select for the war Department a gentleman of known talents, honesty and honor you will be placed beyond the reach of your enemies. It has always been my deliberate opinion that you will have no opposition at the next election. It is true that there are a number of disappointed politicians who would rejoice at your downfal; and I look upon it as probable, that the opposition will assemble this fall at Baltimore in convention. But there will be such a variety of interests represented there, that no measure in ~~a~~ favor of any one will, as I think be unanimously adopted. Clay, Calhoun, McLean and Webster are all desirous to be your successor. Each one of them must see that by an union of all their interests, (which constitutes only the disaffected part of the community) it would be almost impossible to insure your defeat. Surely then, no one will enter the list with such fearful odds against him. A want of success now would destroy all his prospects hereafter. Moreover I think that either of the gentlemen named would consider that his chance would be increased by the end of your second term, as he would not then have to contend with any one who fills so large a space in the affections of the great body of the American people as you do now. There is an other consideration which will have great weight. No one of the gentlemen who aspires to the Presidency will agree that his claims shall be postponed for the benefit of any one else. Hence I cannot but believe that some confusion will attend all their deliberations; and that finally you will be unopposed.

If this view of the subject be correct, the unworthy motives which actuate many to oppose all the measures of your administration will cease at the end of your present term; and you will then I hope have some little repose in office. The coming session of Congress is one of deep interest, ~~if they do so honestly~~ and your friends ought to sustain your measures with a temperate and gallant front—if they do so honestly you have nothing to fear, if not you must only act with the more energy and prudence your self.

It is a strange fact, but I believe nevertheless true, that a majority of the members of congress from this State are warm and devoted friends of Mr. Calhoun. Even Mr. Grundy, who possesses a large portion of that virtue called prudence, on his return from Washington was not sparing of his praizes of the Vice President. While he was in attendance at the Maury circuit court it became necessary to write to him on matters to which he had called my attention. I observed in the conclusion of my letter, it was due to him to say, that almost every person, with whom he had conversed since he came home, were led to believe that he was the warm partizan of Mr. Calhoun; that viewing the relations which subsisted between the first and second officer of the government, it could not be perceived how any one could be sincere in his friendship to both; that five years would elapse before there would be a controversy for the Presidency, and that inasmuch as the great men of the present day might not be considered so then, there would seem to be no necessity for any one's committing himself now on that subject. Since then he has been more circumspect; and so far from sustaining Mr. Calhoun he openly denounces many of his movements. I do not intend to intimate by what I have said that Mr. Grundy will not extend to you his zealous support; so far from it, I believe he will double his exertions to insure your success. And the members of the lower house who are favorable to Mr. Calhoun, manifest no abatement of zeal for you.

I thank you sincerely for the kindness which you have manifested towards me as expressed in the letter which by your direction was addressed to me by Mr. Van Buren. The appointment refered to would be very acceptable, but if circumstances should render it improper to be made, I shall cheerfully submit to the result.[1] The election between Hall and Burton continues very doubtful. Neither of them are very judicious in their movements. Burton talks too much, and Hall is constanly doing wrong under the influence of a misguided temper. Equally doubtful is the contest Crocket and Fitzgerrald are ingaged in. The latter with all his advantages, cannot make a favorable impression on the people by speaches or otherwise; and Crocket in his rough way, sustains his popularity among the common people.[2]

All accounts from Kentucky concur in the opinion that the result of the August elections is doubtful. Every possible exertion should be made by your friends in that State to insure success, which will inevitably prostrate the hopes of the Clay party, for if he cannot be sustained at home, where can he look for support.[3]

Although I shall always be extremely happy to hear from you, yet I know that your public duties are so arduous, that I cannot expect you to write only when your leisure permits. I shall occasionally write you when any thing occurs which I may deem worth your attention

Tendering my friendly regard to Major Donaldson, I pray you to receive assurances of my ardent wishes for the success of your Administration, and of the respect, with which, I am sincerely, your friend

Wm. Carroll

ALS, ICHi (18-0001).

1. Van Buren had written Carroll in March proposing him for minister to Mexico, to which Carroll had replied on April 8 (DLC-39) and April 11 (DLC-73; 17-1117) stating his willingness to accept.

2. Lawyer William Fitzgerald (1799–1864) was David Crockett's opponent for reelection to Congress.

3. In August elections, Clay candidates won majorities in both houses of the Kentucky legislature.

To Andrew Jackson Donelson

June 14th. 1831—

The within sum is intended for your purchase of negroes in virginia & your expences; please write Mr Jones, that you will pass that way, & if the negroes have been purchased, you have the mony to pay for them. This is necessary to prevent him, agreable to my written instructions, to draw upon me for the amount of purchase & expence—the *$1000* being as much as I can spare at present

A. J.

ANS, DLC-Donelson Papers (18-0010). AJ wrote Donelson a check for $1000 this day.

To John Stoney et al.

Washington City, June 14, 1831.

Gentlemen—

It would afford me much pleasure, could I at the same time accept your invitation of the 5th inst. and that, with which I was before honored by the Municipal authorities of Charleston. A necessary attention to the duties of my office must deprive me of the gratification I should have had, in paying, under such circumstances, a visit to the State of which I feel a pride in calling myself a citizen by birth.

Could I accept your invitation it would be with the hope, that all parties —all the men of talent, exalted patriotism, and private worth, who have

been divided in the manner you describe, might be found united before the altar of their country on the day set apart for the solemn celebration of its independence—Independence which cannot exist without union, and with it, is eternal.

Every enlightened citizen must know that a separation could it be effected, would begin with civil discord, and end in colonial dependence on a foreign power, and obliteration from the list of nations. But he should also see, that high and sacred duties which must, and will at all hazards, be performed, present an insurmountable barrier to the success of any plan of disorganization, by whatever patriotic a name it may be decorated, or whatever high feelings may be arrayed for its support.

The force of these evident truths, the effect they must ultimately have upon the minds of those who seem for a moment to have disregarded them, make me cherish the belief I have expressed, that, could I have been present at your celebration, I should have found all parties concurring to promote the object of your association.

You have distinctly expressed that object "To revive in its full force, the benign spirit of union, and to renew the mutual confidence in each others good will and patriotism." Such endeavors calmly and firmly persevered in, cannot fail of success. Such sentiments are appropriate to the celebration of that high festival which commemorates the simultaneous declaration of Union and Independence: and when on the return of that day, we annually renew the pledge, that our heroic fathers made of Life, of Fortune and of Sacred Honor, let us never forget that it was given to sustain us as a *United* not less than an *Independent* people.

Knowing as I do, the private worth and public virtues of distinguished citizens, to whom declarations, inconsistent with an attachment to the Union, have been ascribed, I cannot but hope, that if accurately reported, they were the effect of momentary excitement, not of deliberate design; and that such men can never have formed the project of pursuing a course of redress through any other than constitutional means. But if I am mistaken in this charitable hope, then, in the language of the Father of our country, I would conjure them to estimate properly "the immense value of your National Union, to your collective and individual happiness," to cherish "a cordial, habitual and immoveable attachment to it; accustoming yourselves to think and speak of it as of the Palladium of your political safety and prosperity: watching for its preservation, with jealous anxiety, discountenancing whatever may suggest even a suspicion, that it can in any event be abandoned; and indignantly frowning upon the first dawning, of every attempt to alienate any portion of our country from the rest, or to enfeeble the sacred ties which now link together the various parts."[1]

Your patriotic endeavors, Gentlemen, to lessen the violence of party dissension, cannot be forwarded more effectually than by inculcating a reliance on the justice of our national Councils, and pointing to the fast approaching extinction of the public debt, as an event which must neces-

sarily produce modifications in the Revenue System, by which all interests under a spirit of mutual accommodation and concession, will be probably protected. The graver subjects introduced in your letter of invitation, have drawn from me this frank exposition of opinions which I have neither interest nor inclination to conceal. Grateful for the kindness you have personally expressed, I renew my expressions of regret that it is not in my power to accept your kind invitation, and have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient and humble servant.

ANDREW JACKSON.

Printed, Charleston, S.C., *City Gazette*, July 6, 1831 (mAJs). *Niles*, July 16 (18-0018).

1. From George Washington's Farewell Address in 1796 (Richardson, 1:215).

From John Macpherson Berrien

Washington 15th. June 1831—

Sir,

I herewith tender to you, my resignation of the office of Attorney General of the United States. Two considerations restrained me from taking this step, at the moment when your communication to the Secretary of the Treasury, first met my eye.

There was nothing in the retirement of the Secretaries of State, and of War, or in the distinct and personal considerations, which they had assigned for this measure, which made it obligatory upon, or even proper for me, to adopt a similar course. Such a step with any reference to that occurrence, could only become so on my part, as an act of conformity to your will. You had felt this—and had announced your wishes to the Secretaries of the Treasury, and of the Navy, respectively. I had a right to expect a similar communication of them, and conformed to the wishes and opinions of my fellow-citizens of Georgia, when I determined to await it.

An additional consideration was presented by the fact, that I had been charged, at the moment of my departure from this place, with certain public duties, which were yet unfinished, and my report concerning which, you did not expect to receive until my return. I was gratified to learn from yourself that you had taken the same view of this subject, having postponed the communication of your wishes to me, until my arrival at this place, without expecting in the mean time, any communication from me.

It is due to myself, further to state, that from the moment, when I saw the communication referred to, I have considered my official relation to you, as terminated, or as subsisting only, until my return to the city, should enable me to conform to your wishes, by the formal surrender of my office, which it is the purpose of this note to make.

I retire then Sir, with cheerfulness, from the station, to which your confidence had called me, because I have the consciousness, of having

endeavoured to discharge its duties, with fidelity to yourself, and to the country. Uninfluenced by those considerations, which have been avowed, by that portion of my colleagues, who have voluntarily separated themselves from you—totally ignorant of any want of harmony, in your cabinet, which either has, or ought to have impeded the operations of your administration, I perform this act simply, in obedience to your will.

I have not the slightest disposition to discuss the question of its propriety. It is true, that in a Government, like ours, power is but a trust, to be used for the benefit of those who have delegated it—and that circumstances might exist, in which the necessity of self-vindication, would justify such an enquiry. The first consideration belongs to those, to whom we are both and equally accountable. From the influence of the second, you have relieved me, by your own explicit declaration, that no complaint affecting either my official, or individual conduct, has at any time reached you.

You have assured me, that the confidence, which induced you originally, to confer this appointment upon me, remains unshaken, and undiminished—and have been pleased to express the regret which you feel, at the separation, which circumstances have in your view of the subject, rendered unavoidable. You have kindly added the assurance of your continued good wishes for my welfare. You will not therefore refuse to me the gratification, of expressing my earnest hope, that under the influence of better counsels, your own, and the interests of our common country, may receive all the benefits, which you have anticipated, from the change of your confidential advisers.

A very few days will suffice, to enable me to put my office in a condition for the reception of my successor, and I will advise you of the fact, as soon as its arrangement is complete. I am Respectfully Sir Your Obt St

Jn: Macpherson: Berrien.

ALS, DLC (39). ALS draft, NcU (18-0020). *US Telegraph*, June 23, 1831; *Niles*, June 25.

To John Macpherson Berrien

Washington June 15th. 1831—

Sir,

I have received your letter resigning the office of attorney General.

In the conversation which I held with you, the day before yesterday, upon this subject, it was my desire to present to you the considerations upon which I acted in accepting the resignation of the other members of the Cabinet, and to assure you in regard to yourself, as well as to them, that they imply no dissatisfaction with the manner in which the duties of the respective departments have been performed. It affords me great pleasure to find that you have not misconceived the character of those

considerations, and that you do justice to the personal feelings with which they are unconnected.

I will only add, that the determination to change my Cabinet was dictated by an imperious sense of public duty and a thorough tho painful conviction that the stewardship of power with which I am cloathed, called for it, as a measure of justice to those who had been alike invited to maintain near me the relation of confidential advisers. Perceiving that ~~those characteristics of~~ the harmony in feeling so necessary to an efficient administration had failed in a considerable degree to mark the course of this; and having assented on this account to the voluntary retirement of the secretaries of State & War, no alternative was left me but to give this assent a latitude coextensive with the embarrassments which it recognised and the duty which I owed to each member of the cabinet.

In accepting your resignation as attorney general I take pleasure in expressing my approbation of the zeal & efficiency with which its duties have been performed, and in assuring you, that you carry with you my best wishes for your prosperity and happiness[.] I am very respectfully your obdt. servt.

Andrew Jackson

P.S. you will please to continue to discharge the duties of the office of atto. genl. until you make all those arrangements which you may deem necessary, which when compleated, and I am notified thereof by you, a successor will be appointed. A. J

ALS, NcU (18-0024). Draft by AJ Donelson and ALS draft, DLC (39). *US Telegraph*, June 23, 1831; *Niles*, June 25.

From John Henry Eaton

[On May 31, Eaton wrote James Buchanan of Pennsylvania at Jackson's direction to offer the post of minister to Russia. Buchanan accepted on the understanding that he would not have to depart until early 1832. However, on June 12 Buchanan wrote Eaton worrying that his preparations for the mission, including the study of French he intended to undertake, would alert the newspapers to his appointment, which Eaton had asked him to keep confidential (George Ticknor Curtis, Life of James Buchanan, *1:130–32).]*

15 June 31

Dr Sir

I send you a letter to-day recvd from Mr Buchanan. What shall I say to him yrs

J. H. Eaton

[Endorsed by AJ:] Dr. Sir, say to him in reply, to go on & make his preparations, & let the newspapers make any comments that they may think proper, & mind them not—it is only necessary that *he* should not give them any information on this subject—the journals will say what they please & be it so. yrs A. J.

ALS, PHi-Buchanan Papers (18-0027). George Ticknor Curtis, *Life of James Buchanan* (1883), 1:132. Eaton forwarded the exchange to Buchanan this same day, saying AJ's response was "quite like himself, candid and frank" (PHi; Curtis, *Life of Buchanan*, 1:132).

From Hugh Lawson White

Flint Hill
June 15th. 1831.

My dear friend,

Until Monday evening, I did not return from the West, your favor of the 1st. instant was therefore not received till yesterday. I mention this to account for the apparent neglect in not returning an immediate answer.

Major Armstrong detailed to you correctly the conversation he had with me, and nothing but the situation of my daughter should now prevent my acceptance of the Office, you have tendered in such flattering terms. Accompanied by her husband she had taken a journey to the West, with a hope that travelling might aid in throwing off a complaint threatening the worst results. At Judge Overtons they buried their *little daughter*, and upon their return I met them at Sparta. Her disease is, apparently, making slow but sure progress towards a fatal termination. She is now at home so much enfeebled, that all hope of her recovery must, in my opinion, be abandoned. Were I to leave her for a residence in Washington, or elsewhere, and more especially were I to take with me her Sister and brother, *the only other survivors of my family*, such a step, would I apprehend, be immediately fatal to her.[1]

Should I accept under an expectation that an absence from Washington might be allowed, until her fate was decided, the nature of her complaint might make the time of my absence so protracted, that public opinion would condemn an indulgence so unreasonable. Under these circumstances I can do nothing but decline the Office your kindness would confer.

Had I desired an additional evidence of the sincerity and strength of your personal friendship and regard, it has been most amply furnished in relation to the Office I am constrained to decline accepting; and should you for a moment believe I have made no suitable return, I beg you only to remember, that if I am worthy to be considered the friend of any man, I must have been experiencing the pangs of the dying, for a greater portion of the period, which has elapsed since the year 1825; and that from

such a man but little effectual aid could be expected, even had I accepted. Your friend

Hu. L. White

P.S. Until I saw it announced in the Globe of the 25th May, that I had declined accepting, I had been perfectly silent on the subject, except in a letter to J. K. Polk who I knew was safe.[2] Since that publication, in answering the letters of friends, in several instances I have mentioned the fact of having declined, and in some instances very briefly stated some of my principal reasons. However, these circumstances would not have created any difficulty.

H. L. W.

[Endorsed by AJ:] Judge White declines accepting

ALS, DLC (39). AJ wrote Livingston upon receiving this letter on June 24 (below).

1. White's daughter Margaret Ann (1809–1831) was married to Ebenezer Alexander (1805–1857). Their infant daughter Elizabeth White Alexander had died on June 1, and Margaret Ann died on August 25.

2. Future president James Knox Polk (1795–1849) was at this time a Tennessee congressman.

From Andrew Jackson Donelson

Washington City
June 18th. 1831

My Dear Uncle

I cannot take leave of you without giving you a written assurance of my readiness to resume the relation which I have maintained near you, for so many years, whenever you may think that my services can be of any avail in facilitating the discharge of the many arduous duties which are devolved upon you in your present office. Sensible that the uninterrupted favor which I have experienced at your hands from my infancy to this period, distinguished as it has been by paternal tenderness and a generosity more than liberal, cannot be requited by any thing in my power to render, I can only say that it is impressed indelibly upon my heart, whose grateful affections must ever find their chief happiness, in remembering, honoring and venerating the goodness and greatness which have taken so deep an interest in their welfare.

Those affections tho agonized by the circumstance which suspends their connection with your household, will not be less ardent and resolute in your service. Their sincerity, reasoning as I did and do yet, upon the tendency of the course which you felt it your duty to pursue on that subject would have been false, had they been more flexible.

If in error, as I would willingly pursuade myself I am, I trust you will find, in the rapidity with which all embarrassments ~~must~~ will now disappear, a reason to disregard the agency which I have had in producing them, and causes of self gratulation sufficiently elevated to overlook and forget those who have been governed by motives less disinterested and friendly.

Reassuring you of my anxiety to serve you whenever and wherever I can become useful, I leave with you my prayers for the continuation of your health & happiness and for the success of your administration. Yr. affectionate and grateful nephew.

Andw J Donelson

[Endorsed by Donelson:] The inclosed is the substance of a letter addressed from Guilford court house to the President dated 29th. of June 1831 the day I left it

ALS draft, DLC-Donelson Papers (18-0034). Donelson evidently did not deliver this letter on its date, but sent AJ a version of it on June 29, eleven days later. AJ replied on July 11 (below).

To John Coffee

[None of the correspondence between Jackson and his resigning Cabinet secretaries had alluded to Margaret Eaton as a source of discord. However, by June published accounts were widely attributing the Cabinet breakup to the controversy over her character. On June 17, the United States' Telegraph *charged the rupture to "those who attempted to use the power and influence of the Government to compel society to admit her innocence." To show that the Eaton affair underlay it all, the* Telegraph *claimed that both sides had acknowledged a division in society over Mrs. Eaton, "and it is proved that the families of the Secretaries of the Treasury, and of the Navy, and of the Attorney General, refused to associate with her." That night, Eaton wrote Ingham that he had "studied to disregard" Duff Green's slanders "until persons of responsible character should be brought forth to endorse his vile abuse of me and of my family." Quoting the sentence about the three families avoiding his wife, Eaton said that "This publication appears in a paper which professes to be friendly to you, and is brought forth under your immediate eye. I desire to know of you, whether or not you sanction or will disavow it." Ingham replied on June 18 that it was unclear whether Eaton was questioning his sanction of the* Telegraph*'s publication of the fact or of the fact itself. If the former, "it is too absurd to merit an answer." If the latter, "you must be not a little deranged, to imagine that any blustering of yours could induce me to disavow what all the inhabitants of this City know, and perhaps half the people of the United*

*States believe to be true." Eaton answered the same day, blasting Ingham's "impudent and insolent" reply and demanding "*satisfaction *for the wrong and injury you done me" (*US Telegraph*, June 21, 1831;* Niles*, June 25).]*

(confidential)

Washington June 19th. 1831—

My Dear Genl

your letter of the 30th. of May, post marked the 7th. of June, has been this moment recd. and I hasten to acknowledge it.

Major Donelson—he leaves me with better views & feelings I think than heretofore—leaving me this morning with some private matters, to which I will refer gives me but a moment to answer by the return of mail.

I have noted, & am gratified to learn that you are pleased with my new Cabinet—it will be strong & harmonious—and I hope unlike some of the last, devoid of hypocracy. I think judge White will come into the Cabinet, & on that event only, was it, that our mutual friend was brought to your view. Carrol will not be a candidate for the Senate, I have this in writing from himself. I have other uses for him, which will take him out of the country—it is this that make him come forth so openly in my support—*not the Senate* Therefore Grundy will have no opposition from him, & I hope from no one else.[1]

Mr. Grundys course in the Calhoun business, altho I have no doubt well intended, was an improper one as it respected me, and gave rise to that unprincipled man Calhoun thro his still more unprincipled *tool Duff Green*, to hold me forth to the world in a ludicrous light, that is to say submitted myself to abuse, that my faithful coadjutor Van Buren might be slandered. Such dishonor I could not submit to, nor never will therefore it was that my faithful Eaton finding the Treachery used by some one, came forth & crushed the hydra in its bud.

The conduct of Branch has been dishonorable in the extreme, he ran away, or at least left me, in apparent friendship, the very day before the Publication reached here of his letter, shook me by the hand in friendship.[2] I should have said apparent. I hate a hypocrite, but in time you will hear the sequel. I have still a more despicable opinion of Ingham, if I am not mistaken he has been the secrete traducer of Mrs. Eaton thro the letter writers of Washington, & the filthy presses. Major Eaton has him in toe—and disgrace or blood will follow. Eaton is firm, & Ingham has a pill to digest that has blood or disgrace to him, in its composition—let this suffice for the Present. The whole three will have to answer, & if I mistake not Duff Green, who is the most unprincipled villain, of all Calhouns puppets, will have his reward. I have got Mr John Rheas statement of the confidential letter being shown to him with a request that he would write me, saying the president approves all my views, & of his request, at the instance of Mr Monroe, in 1819 to burn it, & judge overtons statement, that when he wrote the vindication of the Executive this letter, with

others, in the handwriting of Mr Rhea was before him, which approved my views expressed in the confidential letter & that it was written at the request of Mr Munroe. ?What think you of Mr Calhoun, who with all this knowledge & approving all my acts, could secretely move my arrest. More of this anon.

On the subject of the chikisaws I have only time to remark that I wish them located within the boundery allotted to the choctaws. This must be effected if possible, & soon—you must have recd such instructions from the Secretary at War before this, if not, I now say to you effect it if possible, & instructions will be forwarded to you ful on this subject.[3] I will write to you fully soon. Present me kindly to your amiable wife daughter & children & believe me in great haste yr friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS photocopy, A-Ar (18-0042). Coffee replied on July 9 (below).

1. Grundy had been elected senator in 1829 to fill the seat vacated when Eaton resigned to join AJ's Cabinet. His term expired March 3, 1833.

2. The *National Intelligencer* received the Raleigh *Star* containing Branch's May 3 "malign influences" letter on Saturday, May 14, and published it on Monday, May 16. Branch had left town on May 12.

3. Eaton had written Coffee on May 16 that the "perplexing matter" of locating the Chickasaws might be resolved either by shifting the western Cherokee domain northward to make room for them or by incorporating them as a fourth district among the Choctaws (*HRDoc* 171, 22d Cong., 1st sess., pp. 61–62, Serial 219).

From Worden Pope

Louisville June 19th. 1831

Dear Sir

The greatest duty and task of a *friend*, is to act always, with frankness and sincerity, on all occasions. And in this spirit I assure you, that the Editorial article, in "The Globe," concerning the Conduct of the Branches of the Bank of the U. States, at this place and Lexington, gave me much pain. So far as the Branch *here* is concerned, the charge is *untrue*. In the contest between the old and new Court parties, in Kentucky, I deemed *fundamental principles* to be involved; and therefore I contended for *victory* in favor of the inviolability of our appellate court from Legislative destruction. It was established by the *Constitution*, and nothing but the people, in convention, could annihilate it. It was a wrong and desperate course taken, to expel, the Clay-party from power. The strong holds of the state were in their hands. I am not the man that holds, that the *ends do justify the means*.[1]

I knew that the new court-party at this point of action, had freely employed their *cash*, on the Election. I abhored the practice, and did not intend, *in that way* to be *beaten*. My friends agreed, that we would beat our adversaries, with *their own dirty stick*. *The money was my own*. No

one contributed, a cent of it. I waited until the last moment, and put my plans into execution. They were compleated at two OClock of the morning of the first day of the Election. Thus, I turned the ambuscade of our enemies, upon themselves and our party was successful. *This is the truth, the whole truth* and *nothing but the truth*. I do not *know* the author, upon whose *veracity*, Mr Blair has made the publication.[2] But I can, and do say, that the charge does not exist in fact or truth. There must be, some one *here*, who must have some *personal and selfish* purpose to answer, by giving matters of this kind for publication. If I had expected such a publication, as Mr Blairs, I would, in time to prevent it, have made this *confidential* communication.

It was a subject of regret, to some of *your best friends*, that the renewal of the charter of the present Bank, had a place in your first message.[3] It was believed to be premature; and not then required, to give any *advantage* to your administration. It was calculated to *divide your friends*; and put a powerful weapon into the hands of your enemies. Your *prudent* friends wished to give it, the go bye, as a mean to ascertain, in seasonable time, the sentiments of the people. It is, at all times, a difficult and delicate subject to handle; and your friends wished it, not to be agitated, until after your second election. It cannot be acted upon, officially, by the Government, until the close of your second term. My *confidence* in your purity and patriotism of purpose remains unshaken; and I feel it to be a high duty on my part, to speak freely to *your own Ear* on public measures, and leave what I say, to pass, for what it is worth. No private or personal considerations, shall induce me to act with duplicity; or to say any thing to you, which I believe to be incorrect. With these assurances I will proceed to say, what I believe to be the public opinion, now, about a Bank of the United States; and what will be the force and result of that opinion, when the charter of the present one shall expire.

The subject is presented to me, and your able friends, as far as I can ascertain, thus. 1st. That if there be no Bank of the United States, that state Banks will be chartered and spring up, like mushrooms, and the country will be inundated with *depreciated* Bank notes. 2d That the metalic medium will not be sufficient, to prevent that result; and is incompetent to supply the wants of an intelligent enterprising and industrious nation. 3d. That the safety of the national revenue, requires a Bank of the United States. 4th. That a great majority of the people of the United states, will have such a Bank. 5th That if the Republican party are opposed to the present Bank-charter, let them charter a new Bank, on the following conditions 1st. That it shall loan its funds for four per cent. 2d. That it shall perform the same services for the Government, which are performed by the present Bank. 3d. That it shall not deal in or take securities of real estate. 4th That it shall be suable, in the state-courts, without the power of removal into the Federal Courts, upon parol as well, as agreements evidenced by its corporate seal and also for torts; and that, service of

process, on the president or cashier of a Branch shall be sufficient. 5th. That the president Directors and all other officers of the corporation, shall be sworn and certificates thereof registered before they act. 6th. That Congress shall have power at any time to repeal the charter, for a violation of it. 7th. That the District Attorney shall upon complaint, supported by affidavit, and security for costs, for a wrong done, be compelled to prosecute a quo warranto to *seize the charter.*

It would seem, that a Bank, thus chartered, would disarm it, of all the dangers apprehended, or now felt, by the republican party; and that the Charter of the present Bank, might, on the same terms be renewed with safety. But suppose you set an example, that no Bank shall be continued beyond the termination of its charter. In other words suppose you let the charter of the present Bank expire; and be prepared with another, on the terms aforesaid, containing an express declaration that it shall not be renewed. Let the Government not ask a bonus; and it seems to me, that you can have a Bank, on your own terms, with all "the due guards" that shall be necessary.[4] It would be, emphatically be a *Jackson Bank*.

The Globe is looked upon, as the Official organ of the Administration; and if it does not retract its article, we need not open our mouths. The *people* of the west, are against its contents. It has asserted, upon the information of some *designing* person or persons, what is *positively untrue*, and the people of the west, who feel the advantages of the Branches will not discuss the *unconstituonality* of the Bank. They will not give due weight to Constitutional law, against that, which they feel to be expedient. A sound currency to an agricultural, manufacturing and commercial people, is as essential as the blood to the human body. The people of the west had rather, fight the British again, *under you*, at the batteries at Neworleans, than to be subjected to effigy Banks and their Bastard depreciated paper.

It is in vain for any one, to attempt to induce the people to run against a Bank of the United States. Unless a substitute be offered, nine-tenths of the west, will support the present Bank, with all its defects. Those who think differently, do not know the sentiments of the people. If we go against the present Bank, nothing will save us, but a substitute. Without it, we will be beaten and put down. The capitalists of the north, want a new Bank. They will agree to take a charter for twenty years, on the terms which you will dictate. Waive a *bonus* and they will lend at four per cent. All men are prepared for a reduction of interest. Every thing has fallen, since 1816, and interest also ought to fall. The threat of such, a project has stopt the mouth or nearly so, of our enemies here. But the injudicious, erroneous and ill-timed article of Mr Blair, is murder to us. I suppose that he *cannot*, give up his informant. I know him not, but depend upon it, he was after *something* for himself It is in Mr Blairs power to exculpate the Branch here, and he ought to do it. I dictate to no one. My road is open and straight. We are on the eve of an Election, which will settle the fate of

the administration, in Kentucky and its result will be felt elsewhere. We have no power to share. Division will ruin us. Mr Blairs article has fallen like a thunder bolt upon the state. You have felt the effects of *division*, in your late cabinet; and we feel, in this state, all the force of selfish interests and purposes. I rely on the *people* for success; and see the danger of our patisans. This letter is in the strictest confidence[.] I am your political and personal friend

Worden Pope

First draft—no copy kept

ALS, DLC (39). Pope (1772–1838) was a Louisville lawyer and active Jacksonian.

1. The Kentucky court battle began in 1823, when the state Court of Appeals voided a debtor relief law. The legislature supplanted the court with a new one. The two courts vied for legitimacy until 1826, when the Old Court prevailed. The contest in part presaged later partisan alignments, with future Jacksonians including Francis Blair and Amos Kendall supporting the New Court. Pope had backed the Old Court.

Blair's Washington *Globe* had assailed the Bank of the United States in a series of recent editorials. On June 1, 1831, it accused the Lexington and Louisville branches of corrupting Kentucky politics during the court battle, charging that on the day before state legislative elections in 1825 the Louisville branch had supplied $250 for whiskey to buy up illegal votes for Old Court candidates from transient riverboat men.

2. The *Globe* claimed its information came from direct participants in the campaign corruption. In December 1830 Amos Kendall had furnished AJ with an account precisely matching the *Globe*'s, naming Samuel Q. Richardson of Frankfort as his source (*Jackson Papers*, 8:700–701).

3. The Bank's twenty-year charter ran until 1836. AJ said in his first annual message that the stockholders would likely soon apply for a recharter, and that he therefore raised the issue "to avoid the evils resulting from precipitancy" in granting it (Richardson, 2:462).

4. The BUS charter had required it to pay the U.S. a $1,500,000 bonus "in consideration of the exclusive privileges and benefits" the charter conferred (*Statutes*, 3:276).

From John Forsyth

Augusta June 20. 1831.

My Dear Sir

Your confidential letter has given me unalloyed pleasure.[1] It is grateful to me to know that you judge favorably of my efforts to defend your administration from what appeared to me an unmerited assault not less, that you have experienced regret at not being able to comprehend me in recent arrangements for the advancement of the publick interest. It would have given me pleasure to aid you in the accomplishment of the great worthy objects to which your publick life is devoted in any station in which my services would have been thought best bestowed, altho so far as mere personal feeling is concerned my position is as pleasant as any one in the power of the Exe. to offer for my acceptance.

As to the future, guided by the same principles & actuated by the same feelings that have heretofore governed my course you may rest assured I will support you to the best of my power when I think you right & condemn you without asperity when I shall be unfortunate enough to think that you have mistaken the true path.

With sincere respect & grateful acknowledgements I am my Dear Sir Your friend & obt ser

John Forsyth

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr Forsythe—Private A. J.

ALS, DLC (39).

1. Van Buren had forwarded a letter from AJ, "written in a spirit of sincere friendship," to Forsyth on June 8 (Van Buren Papers, DLC).

From George Rockingham Gilmer

Executive Department Georgia
Milledgeville 20th. June 1831

Sir,

Circumstances have enabled me to collect much information as to the present temper and designs and probable course of the Cherokees. The great interest felt by the people of this State, in having them removed from its limits, & the contract of 1802 finally executed, has induced me to communicate directly to the President so much of that information as may possibly be useful to him in his endeavors to effect that object. Strong hopes were at one time entertained that if the decision of the Supreme Court should be against the application of the Cherokees for a writ of injunction to stay the jurisdiction of Georgia, that they would immediately treat with the United States for an extinguishment of their present occupant rights.

It is known that, previous to that decision and during the pendency of the case before the Supreme Court, all classes had expressed their belief that such would be the course pursued by them. These hopes have however proved illusory. Since that decision the wealthy and influential half breed chiefs have been exceedingly active in persuading the people to continue their present residence, in opposition to the desire of the General Government to extinguish their title, & in defiance of the rights & power of Georgia. These efforts have unfortunately been very successful. This has resulted from the extra judicial opinions of the Supreme Court in determining that the Cherokes formed a distinct political society separate from others & capable of managing its own affairs, and that they were the rightful owners of the soil which they occupied.[1] Meetings of the Indian people have been called in most of their Towns, at which the Chiefs have

used these opinions to convince them that their right of self Government and soil were independent of the United States and Georgia and would be secured to them thro the Supreme Court and the change (which they represented to be certain) in the administration of the General Government. From all the information I have received, I am satisfied that the President would fail in any immediate efforts he might make to execute the Contract of 1802 by treaty with the chiefs, and that the attempt would only expose the Government to their insults & increase their confidence in the unfortunate measures which they are pursuing. It is most respectfully suggested to the President, that no measure can at present be successfully adopted for the execution of the Contract of 1802, except that of inducing individuals, families and Towns to emigrate from this State by paying them the value for their improvements, or giving them such other advantages as may be found acceptable. And the President is earnestly requested to try the effect of this measure & as early as possible.

The great body of the common Indians are without wealth or power. Nothing prevents their acquiescence with the offers of the Government to unite them with that part of their tribe on the west of the Mississippi, but their habitual submission to the Control of their Chiefs, & their inert & listless character. What is said of their strong desire not to be separated from the bones of their fathers is but the expressions of those whose ancestors' remains are deposited in Europe or the States. The confidence of the common Indians in the rule of their Chiefs has been of late impaired by their appropriation of the wealth of the tribe to themselves, their descent from the whites & the adoption of their manners: & their listlessness of temper in some degree overcome by the fear of unknown evils from the operation of the laws of Georgia. The Guard which has been stationed among them has been successful in preventing any trespasses upon the Gold mines, in putting a stop to their Legislative Councils, their Courts, the execution of their laws, and in removing all white men from among them disposed to excite their opposition to the Government of the State.[2] The Chiefs can no longer prevent the people from enrolling for emigration by the fear of punishment. It is thought probable that the very attempt to remove the people by enrolling individuals for emigration will tend to produce a willingness on the part of the Chiefs to treat for the exchange of their lands. They know that by the removal of the common Indians they will lose their power, the exclusive possession of their Country and become subjected to the prejudices of a white population with whom they will be mingled.

I have enclosed to the Secretary of war, with the request that the same may be laid before the President, the copy of a letter just received from Doctr. Reese a respectable gentleman of this State who has lately returned from a visit to the Cherokees, & whose connection with some of the influential half breed Chiefs, has enabled him to acquire an accurate knowledge of the designs of that class of the Indians; and a correspondence had

with the Surveyors who have been lately engaged in dividing the Country occupied by the Cherokees into Sections and districts, and whose employment led them into a very unreserved intercourse with all classes of the Indians. The opinions expressed by these persons in favor of the plan of removing the Cherokees by enrolling individuals for emigration rather than by treaty with the Chiefs is confirmed by information derived from various other sources.[3]

This subject is of great importance not only to the peace, prosperity and quiet of the State, but to the character of its Government. The obstructions which have been thrown in the way of the execution of the Contract of 1802—the long continued indifference and neglect of the General Government, and its actual opposition in 1825–6—the constant torrent of abuse which party violence has poured upon the Authorities of the State and its people on account of the measures which have been adopted for the support of its rights of soil & jurisdiction—the influence which that partizan violence is now exercising over the Cherokee Chiefs in inducing them to continue their opposition to the laws of Georgia & in exciting their expectation that by a change in the present Administration of the General Government they will be secured in the rights of Self Government—the conduct of the Chief Justice of the United States in interfering with the administration of the criminal laws of the State—and the intimation given the Cherokees in the late decision of the Supreme Court that the laws of Georgia were exceedingly oppressive, that the State had neither the right of jurisdiction nor of soil, have all conspired so to irritate the public mind here, that it will be extremely difficult, perhaps impossible to prevent the Legislature from disposing of all the lands of the State assigned to the Indians for their occupancy, except so much as may be in their immediate possession or required for their support, unless the President shall be enabled during the present year to adopt such measures as will give assurance that the Cherokees will be certainly and shortly removed from the State.[4] It is important that the Government of the State should know whether it has become impossible for the United States to execute the Contract of 1802, so that its policy in relation to the Cherokees may no longer be influenced by the expectation of that event.

Hitherto the Indians have neither been compelled to pay taxes nor perform any civil duties. The only operation of the laws since the extension of the jurisdiction of the State over them has been to protect them from injury by the punishment of crimes, & the removal of the whites who had been tempted into their Country by the attraction of the Gold Mines. The State is at this time maintaining a Guard at great expense for the purpose of preventing the exercise of assumed authority on the part of the Chiefs, from the expectation that the President would be enabled during the present year to succeed in removing the Indians beyond its limits, and the strong disposition felt by its authorities to avoid the adoption of any measures which might have even the appearance of violating

the laws of humanity or the natural rights of the Indians. If the Cherokees are to continue inhabitants of the State, they must be rendered subject to the ordinary operation of the laws with less expense and trouble and more effectually than heretofore. The State must put an end to even the semblance of a distinct political society among them. It has been hitherto permitted from the belief that their happiness required it and that such a state was not inconvenient nor injurious to the rights of Georgia. The agitation which the Indian question has excited throughout our Country, and the manner in which it has endangered the most important political rights of the State renders it necessary that this should be done.

The millions of acres of land which are now of no value except to add to the gratification of the idle ambition of the Chiefs must be placed in the possession of actual cultivators of the soil who may be made the instruments for the proper administration of the laws.

It is hoped the President will concur with me in the necessity of making such efforts for removing the Cherokees as will ascertain whether it be practicable at all by treaty, enrollment for emigration or any other means.

I trust that the importance of the subject will be my sufficient apology to the President for the manner in which it has been pressed upon his consideration.

With sentiments of the highest consideration, I remain most respectfully Yours &c

George R. Gilmer

[Endorsed by AJ:] The Executive of Georgia—to be attended to when I return to the city A. J.

LS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-113). LC, G-Ar; Copy, DNA-RG 46 (18-0045). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 479–82 (Serial 245). AJ replied on July 15 (below).

1. While it denied the motion for an injunction against Georgia on jurisdictional grounds, Chief Justice Marshall's majority opinion in *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia* recognized "the character of the Cherokees as a state, as a distinct political society, separated from others, capable of managing its own affairs and governing itself," and with "an unquestionable, and, heretofore, unquestioned right to the lands they occupy, until that right shall be extinguished by a voluntary cession to our government" (30 U.S. Reports 16–17).

2. A Georgia law of December 22, 1830, prohibited and criminalized the operations of the Cherokee government, barred whites from entering the Cherokee nation without a license from the state, and authorized a Guard of sixty men to enforce state law and protect the gold mines. Under this law, the Guard had arrested several missionaries to the Cherokees. On November 3, the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions appealed to AJ on their behalf (below).

3. Gilmer wrote Eaton on June 21, enclosing letters from physician and later Georgia congressman David Addison Reese (1794–1871) and from five state surveyors in the Cherokee country whom Gilmer had queried. All reported that the chiefs were determined not to treat for removal, but that many Indians would emigrate individually if given opportunity (*SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 482–93, Serial 245).

4. In 1825 a faction among the Creek Indians had signed the Treaty of Indian Springs, which ceded the entire Creek domain within Georgia. The Creek national government repudiated the treaty, and the Adams administration blocked Georgia from occupying the

lands while it negotiated a new cession in the 1826 Treaty of Washington. In the summer of 1830 the Cherokee George Tassel was arrested by Georgia authorities for murdering another Cherokee in Hall County, within the Cherokee domain recently annexed by the state. A Georgia court convicted Tassel and sentenced him to be executed on December 24. William Wirt, attorney for the Cherokees, appealed to the Supreme Court, asking it to overturn Tassel's conviction and enjoin Georgia's enforcement of state law within the Cherokee Nation. Chief Justice Marshall granted a writ of error on December 12 and ordered a hearing for January 1831, setting up a possible test of state jurisdiction over the Cherokees. However, Gilmer on receiving Marshall's citation on December 22 conveyed it immediately to the Georgia legislature, declaring his intention not to comply. The legislature adopted resolutions the same day directing him to carry out Tassel's execution and disregard any Supreme Court mandate that interfered with operation of Georgia's criminal laws. Tassel was hung, as scheduled, on December 24, 1830. Georgia's overt defiance of federal authority was widely criticized, and Wirt and John Sergeant invoked it in arguing *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*.

From Samuel Delucenna Ingham

Treasury Department
20th. June 1831.

Sir,

I had the honor to inform you at the interview to which you invited me on the 19th. of April last that I would continue to discharge the duties of the Treasury Department until the work which I had engaged in, under a resolution of the Senate, directing a comparison of the weights and measures used at the principal Custom houses should be so far completed as to enable me to determine the several units proper to be adopted, when the manufacture of the respective standards for the supply of the Custom houses could progress without interruption by the change in the Department.

This work has taken more time than I then expected, notwithstanding the most assiduous and persevering efforts by Mr. Hassler to complete that part of it with which he was charged. But it is now so far accomplished as to have enabled me to make the necessary determinations, and to direct the construction of the standards.[1]

My protracted detention in the Department has not been without some pain and violence to my feelings, under the circumstances in which I have been placed, and I have only been reconciled to it from the consideration that the undertaking which had cost the Government some expense, and myself much labor promised to be of great value to the Country in rendering the duties so far as they depended on weights or measures uniform throughout the United States.

The material for the report to the Senate, is nearly all collected and embodied, and the Government will be greatly indebted to Mr. Hassler for the scientific skill, minuteness and accuracy with which he has made the numerous, elaborate and comprehensive investigations, comparisons and experiments; certainly not surpassed by those of the European phi-

losophers, who have heretofore kept so far in advance of us in this department of science. The units for the yard, the pound, avoirdupois & Troy, the Bushel and Gallon have been established very nearly upon the mean of those in most common use in the United States, which mean notwithstanding the great variances of the respective weights & measures within themselves, is found to correspond in terms so nearly with those of Great Britain, from which they were originally established, that I have considered these terms as indicating the point of coincidence, and neglected the mean which is necessarily somewhat vague—and have established the units accordingly. The manufacture of the standards will therefore proceed under the immediate direction of Mr. Hassler, who will specially attend to their verification and comparison, until the contemplated supply as well of standards for preservation at the seat of Government, as those to be used at the Custom houses is finished. I therefore have the honor to inform you that my official relation to the Government terminates with this day. I am, Respectfully Your obt. Servant

S D Ingham
Secretary of the Treasury

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr Ingham advising that on this day (20th June) his relations with the Government ceases—to be filed A. J.

LS, DLC (39). Philadelphia *American Sentinel*, July 11, 1831; *Niles*, July 23.

1. Ferdinand Rudolph Hassler (1770–1843) was a renowned mathematician and scientist who had been the first head of the United States Coast Survey. Ingham issued his final instructions on June 18 (Philadelphia *American Sentinel*, July 11, 1831; *Niles*, July 23). Hassler submitted his report to Treasury secretary Louis McLane on January 27, 1832, and McLane transmitted it to the Senate on June 20, 1832 (*SDoc* 168, 22d Cong., 1st sess., Serial 214).

From Samuel Delucenna Ingham

[Ingham answered John Eaton's June 18 demand for "satisfaction"*—the standard phrasing of a challenge to a duel—on June 20, saying "I am not to be intimidated by threats, or provoked by abuse, to any act inconsistent with the pity and contempt which your condition and conduct inspire." He also charged that the day before, Sunday, June 19, "your brother-in-law, Dr. Randolph, intruded himself into my room, with a threat of personal violence." Philip Grymes Randolph (1801–1836), a physician, was married to Margaret Eaton's sister Mary. Randolph was the chief clerk of the War Department and, as of June 18, acting Secretary of War.*

Eaton answered Ingham on June 20: "Your note of this morning is received. It proves to me that you are quite brave enough to do a mean action, but too great a coward to repair it. Your contempt I heed not;

*your pity I despise." If rumors were proof of guilt, "then should you have pity of yourself, for your wife has not escaped them, and you must know it.—But no more; here our correspondence closes. Nothing more will be received short of an acceptance of my demand of Saturday, and nothing more be said by me until face to face we meet. It is not in my nature to brook your insults, nor will they be submitted to" (*US Telegraph*, June 21, 1831;* Niles*, June 25).]*

Washington 21st. June 1831

Sir

Before I leave the City it seems to be due to the Government that I should perform a painful duty imposed upon me by the events of the last 48 hours. It is not necessary for me now to detail the circumstances which have convinced me of the existence of vindictive personal hostility to me, among some of the Officers of the Government near your person and supposed to be in your special confidence which has been particularly developed within the last two weeks, and has finally displayed itself in an attempt to way lay me on my way to the Office yesterday, as I have reason to believe for the purpose of assassination. If you have not already been apprised of these movements, you may perhaps be surprised to learn that the persons concerned in them, are the late Secretary of War, the acting Secrety of War, and that the Second Auditor of the Treasy, Register of the Treasy and the Treasurer of the U. States were in their Company, and that the Treasurers & Registers rooms in the lower part of the Building of the Treasy Dept. & also a Grocery Store between my lodgings and the office were alternately occupied as their rendezvous while lying in wait, the former affording the best opportunity ~~of~~ for observing my approach. Apprized of these movements, on my return from taking leave of some of my friends, I found myself obliged to arm & accompanied by my son, & some other friends I repaired to the Office to finish the business of the day after which I returned to my lodgings in the same company. It is proper to state that the principal persons who had been thus employed for several hours, retired from the Dept. soon after I entered my room & that I received no molestation from them either at my ingress or egress But having recruited an additional force in the Evening they paraded until a late hour on the streets near my lodgings heavily armed threatening an assault on the dwelling I reside in.

I do not present these facts to your notice for the purpose of invoking your protection. So far as an individual may rely upon his own personal efforts I am willing to meet this peril. And against an assault by numbers I have found an ample assurance of protection in the generous tender of personal service from the Citizens of Washington. But they are communicated to you as the chief Magistrate of the U. States and most especially of the District of Columbia, whose duties in maintaining good order among

its inhabitants & protecting the Officers of the Government in the discharge of their duties cannot be unknown to you. I have only to add that so far as I am informed all the persons engaged in, and giving countenance to this business are Officers of the Govt. except the late Secretary of War. I have the honor to be Respectfully Your Obt. Servant.

S D Ingham

[Endorsed by AJ:] recd 9 oclock june 22nd. 1831—A. J.

LS, DLC (39). *US Telegraph*, June 22, 1831; *Niles*, June 25. The officers Ingham accused were Philip G. Randolph, second auditor William B. Lewis, register of the Treasury Thomas L. Smith, and Treasurer of the United States John Campbell (c1788–1866). Lewis, like Randolph, was Eaton's brother-in-law, the two having married sisters (now both deceased) as their first wives. AJ wrote all four accused officers on June 22 (below).

From John Macpherson Berrien

Washington 22nd. June 1831—

Sir,

In conformity to the suggestion contained in my note of the 15th inst, I have to inform you, that the arrangements necessary to put the office of the Attorney General, in a condition for the reception of my successor are now complete.

The misrepresentations which are circulated in the newspapers, on the subject of my retirement from office, make it proper that this correspondence should be submitted to the public, as an act of justice, both to you, and to myself. I am Respectfully Sir Yr Obt Sr

Jn: Macpherson: Berrien.

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr. Berriens

ALS, DLC (39). ALS draft, NcU (18-0071). *US Telegraph*, June 23, 1831; *Niles*, June 25.

To John Macpherson Berrien

Washington June 22nd 1831—

Sir

your note of this day is recd—advising me "In conformity to the suggestions contained in my (your) note of the 15th. instant, I (you) have to inform you (me) that the arrangements necessary to put the office of the attorney General, in a condition for the reception of my successor, are now compleat."

For reasons assigned in your note you further observe "make it proper that this correspondence should be submitted to the public, as an act of justice both to you & myself." I am sure I can have no objections to your submitting them as you propose, as you believe this to be necessary. I am respectfully your obdt. Servt.

Andrew Jackson

ALS, GHi (18-0073). ALS draft, DLC (39). *US Telegraph*, June 23, 1831; *Niles*, June 25. On June 23 the *Telegraph* published this exchange along with Berrien's June 15 resignation letter and AJ's acceptance.

To John Campbell, Thomas Lilly Smith, Philip Grymes Randolph, and William Berkeley Lewis

June 22nd. 1831—

Gentlemen:

I have this moment received the enclosed letter from Mr. Ingham, dated the 21rst. instant; and having immediately, on its recpt., sent to ask an interview with him, I find he had left the city before it reached me. I wish you to state to me, if you, or either of you, have had any agency or participation, and if any, to what extent, in the alleged misconduct imputed in his letter herewith enclosed.

I surely have been deceived in your characters if you are capable of so far forgetting the responsibilities of your stations as to participate in the reprehensible conduct charged. To the serious charges contained in Mr Ingham's letter, which gave me the first information that I have had of *his* dificulties, I wish you to give a prompt & explicit answer, respectfully

Andrew Jackson

[Endorsed by AJ:] Copy A. Jackson. P. to Col Campbell Treasurer; Major Smith Register; Doctor Randolph, acting sec. of war; and Major Lewis 2nd auditor dated 22nd. June 1831—enclosing Mr Inghams of the 21rst. recd on 22nd. & complaining of a combination of these Gentlemen to assasinate him—he had left the city before his letter was recd. A. J.

ALS copy, DLC (39). LS draft, NN (18-0075). *Globe*, June 23, 1831; *Niles*, June 25. The *Globe* printed this letter and the four responses in the order below on June 23, reporting that Ingham had left Washington at 4:00 a.m. on June 22 and that AJ received his June 21 letter through the post office at 8:00 a.m. AJ wrote Ingham on June 23 (below).

From John Campbell

WASHINGTON, June 22, 1831.

SIR:—

I have had the honor to receive your communication of this day, enclosing a copy of a letter to you from the late Secretary of the Treasury of the 21st instant, complaining of an attempt to way-lay him on the part of certain officers of the Government, for the purpose of assassination, and charging me with being in their company, and my room in the Treasury with being alternately occupied with other officers as a rendezvous for them while lying in wait.—It might perhaps be sufficient for the purpose for which you have referred this communication to me, for me to apply to the charges against me, a simple and unqualified denial. They are entirely destitute of the least foundation in truth: but to show you more clearly how far I was from aiding or participating in any thing connected with this matter complained of, I will beg your permission to add the following circumstances. The late Secretary of War, Major Eaton, never consulted me upon the subject of his controversy with Mr. Ingham, nor did I even see him on the day in question, except in an accidental meeting of a few minutes. I never saw the correspondence between them until it appeared in the Telegraph; and although I had heard that a correspondence was going on which might result in a personal conflict, I did not believe it was likely to take place on that day, or even that Washington was to be the scene of it.

Trusting that these facts and explanations will be entirely satisfactory to you, I cannot withhold the expression of my astonishment, that charges so wholly uncalled for and groundless, should have been made against me by a gentleman with whom I never had the least cause of quarrel, and with whom my official intercourse, since my entrance into the Treasury, had uniformly been of the most friendly character.—I certainly had no idea of *arming* against him, or of interfering in any way in his dispute with Major Eaton.

I have the honor to remain Your most obedient servant,

JOHN CAMPBELL.

Printed, Washington *Globe*, June 23, 1831 (mAJs). *Niles*, June 25 (18-0077).

From William Berkeley Lewis

WASHINGTON, 22d June 1831.

SIR:—

Your letter of this morning has this moment been received, and in reply I have to say that the charge made against me by Mr. Ingham of having been engaged in a conspiracy against him, is devoid of truth. If there were any such conspiracy against him, as alleged in his letter to you of yesterday, it was entirely unknown to me.

I arrived at my office on Monday morning, 20th instant, about half past eight o'clock, and never left the building until about half after two, when I walked down to the U. States Bank to attend to some Bank business. After seeing the Teller of the Bank, and informing him what I wanted done, I went to a barber's shop a little below Mr. Strother's Hotel. On my return I called at the Register's Office, a few minutes before three o'clock, where I saw, unexpectedly, Mr. Eaton—it being the first time I had seen him since last Saturday evening. I remained in the Register's Office about five minutes, and then walked up to my own office in company with no other person than Mr. Eaton. Dr. Randolph was not there, nor did I see him any where, on that day, out of the War Office, until late in the evening. I neither saw nor heard of Mr. Ingham while I was at the Treasury Department. I had no arms of any description about me.

I am, very respectfully, Your mo. obt. ser't.

W. B. LEWIS.

Printed, Washington *Globe*, June 23, 1831 (mAJs). *Niles*, June 25 (18-0081).

From Thomas Lilly Smith

WASHINGTON, June 22d, 1831.

SIR:—

In reply to your note of to-day, enclosing a copy of a letter from Mr. Ingham to you, bearing date the 21st inst. I beg leave to state, that the charges contained in Mr. Ingham's letter, as far as they relate to me, are wholly untrue. I have had no participation or agency, whatever, in the controversy between Major Eaton and Mr. Ingham. I have given neither aid nor succour to Major Eaton, nor any one for him. I have not walked with him, nor near him. I have not sought Mr. Ingham, nor been in his neighborhood. I have been unarmed constantly, and in all respects I have been unconnected with any thing that threatened his safety. As to the charge that my office was used for any such purposes as are named by Mr. Ingham, it is not less untrue than the rest of the statement. Major Eaton was in my office twice, once between ten and eleven o'clock, and once

about fifteen minutes before three; each time he came alone, and did not remain more than ten minutes.

I regret, Sir, that Mr. Ingham, in making charges of such grave import, had not thought proper to refer to the authority upon which he based his allegations, and awaited the issue before he left the city.

With the highest respect, Your obt. servt.

T. L. SMITH.

Printed, Washington *Globe*, June 23, 1831 (mAJs). *Niles*, June 25 (18-0083).

From Philip Grymes Randolph

WASHINGTON, 22d June, 1831.

SIR:—

In answer to your letter of this date, asking the extent of my participation in the controversy lately passed between Mr. Ingham and Major Eaton, and how far I am amenable to the charges made by Mr. Ingham against me, in his letter of yesterday, I have to reply, that I had no further agency in the matter than is shown in the correspondence between those gentlemen, as published in the Telegraph on Tuesday last.[1] I was not with Major Eaton more than ten minutes at any one time between 9 and 3 o'clock on Monday, on which day the charge of a combination for the purpose of assassinating Mr. Ingham is made by him against me and others. I did not participate in, nor did I know of any design to attack Mr. Ingham's residence as is charged by him, nor was I armed at any time during the hours mentioned, having no apprehension of danger from Mr. Ingham, or those "*friends*" whom he says surrounded him. Maj. Eaton was alone when he sought an interview with Mr. Ingham, as will be shewn by the certificates of two respectable individuals.

Respectfully yours,

P. G. RANDOLPH.

Printed, Washington *Globe*, June 23, 1831 (mAJs). *Niles*, June 25 (18-0082).

1. This was the *Telegraph*'s June 21 publication of Ingham's June 20 letter to Eaton, accusing Randolph of entering his room on June 19 "with a threat of personal violence." The *Telegraph* also charged that Eaton and several companions had come to the Treasury Department on Monday morning, June 20, and behaved menacingly. Ingham, warned by friends on his way to the office, arrived with a guard. Eaton then left with Randolph and Lewis.

To Andrew Jackson Donelson

Washington June 23rd. 1831

Dr Andrew

I enclose you the Globe which will give you the infamous & cowardly conduct of Ingham That he would have so basely lied I was not prepared to believe, or that he was such a base coward I could anticipate—only that my rule is that a base man is always a coward. The answer of Ingham to Eaton shows a superlative degree of baseness unheard of before & it is no wonder that death & Hell with all its torments was constantly in his [ima]gination. They Took a st[. . .] Ingham house *[not]* mentioned [. . .]d at four was two hours earlier than usual guarded by six men, under the Command of Towson, & I never would wanted any other weapon than a Steel Tobacco box to have disarmed the Whole of them.[1] The truth is Eaton alone did look for him and remained, in a grocers store, after walking thro the streets some time, until nearly the hour of thre from ten in the morning went from there to the Registers office remained there until nearly the hour of closing, & shortly after the officers & clerks being about to leave & close the office Major Eaton left the Treasury & with Major Lewis left there & went to the war office—as soon as the spies reported, as it is believed, that [Eaton] had left there Ingham m[arch]ed forth with his janisaries, who it is said had determined when Eaton made the attack to shoot three or seven balls thro Eaton—judge for yourself—Judge Berrien in his correspondence with Eaton has acted like a gentleman & left Mr Ingham in rather a disagreable situation[2]—the mails closing, & I must bid you adieu—with my love to all yours

Andrew Jackson

ALS, DLC-Donelson Papers (18-0084).

1. Colonel Nathan Towson (1784–1854) was paymaster general of the Army. He had accompanied Ingham to the Treasury Department on June 20.

2. On June 17 Eaton had sent Berrien a letter identical to the one he wrote Ingham, demanding that he sanction or disavow the *Telegraph* report of Cabinet families shunning his wife. Berrien replied on June 18. He denied Eaton's "right to interrogate me, concerning the statements of the Telegraph, or of any other public journal, which are made without my agency." However, he said that, given their public position, he would answer rather than risk the community drawing false inferences from a refusal. Berrien said he could not have been "in ignorance of that, which was publicly, and generally spoken of" about Mrs. Eaton. He had himself made no judgment "upon the truth, or falsehood, of the statements which were made. It was sufficient for me, to ascertain the general sense of the community of which I had recently become a member; and having done so, to conform to it." Since January 1830, when AJ had seemed to assert but then disclaimed a right to regulate his Cabinet officers' social relations, Berrien was "not aware that any other occasion has occurred, in which the question of an intercourse, between your family and mine, has been presented to me, or to my family." Eaton replied on June 22 that he had not really suspected Berrien and that he would, "with pleasure, . . . acknowledge the frankness with which you have disavowed an agency in this nefarious business." Berrien wrote again on June 23, clarifying that he had disavowed agency only "in procuring the publication" of the *Telegraph*'s statement, leaving aside its content.

Eaton enclosed the original of Berrien's June 18 letter to AJ on July 19 (below), and Berrien published the entire exchange in the *National Intelligencer* and *Telegraph* on July 23.

To Samuel Delucenna Ingham

Washington 23d. June 1831

Sir,

I recd. your letter of the 21 Inst at 9. Oclock on the 22. thro the city P.O. charging several officers of the Government with a conspiracy to assassinate you. They were immediately furnished by me with a copy of your letter; and I herewith enclose ~~to you~~ for your information copies of the replies which they have given, denying the charges preferred against them by you. a copy of my letter is also enclosed. I am very respectfully, your Obt. Sert.

signed Andrew Jackson

[in AJ's hand:] P.S. I would have prefered that this matter should have been examined into face to face & for that purpose sent my messenger for you, but was informed you had left the city at 4 oclock a.m. A. J.

LS draft, DLC (39). *Globe*, July 11, 1831; *Niles*, July 16. The draft is mainly in William B. Lewis's hand, with insertions by Eaton and AJ. Ingham replied on June 30 (below).

To Andrew Jackson Jr.

Washington June 23rd. 1831

My Son

I have this morning recd. a letter from Mr Steel of the 11th. instant, in which he informs me my family are well, my stock in good condition, & my crop promising. I did intend to have written you fully, but an investigation which Mr Inghams cowardly flight from immaginary conspiracy of assasination, leaving charges against several officers in his letter to me, & leaving the city before it reached me, when he ought to have *remained here*, and have faced the accused, *face, to facce*, engrosses my attention to day, that I have only time to say to you my health is tolerable, but I wish you to return as soon as you can after attending to the business agreable to my written instructions. I would desire when you visit Col George Martins & your sister, ~~to~~ that you should spend one or two days with General Coffee, & bring me information of A. J. Hutching farm &c & present me to your brother & sister affectionately & to Genl Coffee and all his family.[1]

I enclose you the Globe that you may see, what I long suspected, that Mr Ingham was neither an honorable or confidential man & to beware of

him. Judge Berrien has acted like a gentleman, and when his correspondence & Inghams, with Major Eaton, are published, the constrast will be damnation to Ingham, & credit to Judge Berrien.

How is it that you did not write me from Louisville—never promise without punctually performing with my prayers for your health & safety I am your affectionate father.

Andrew Jackson

P.S. Give my compliments to Mrs. Donelson the Elder, & all my connection & good neighbours, & to your old uncle Alexander particularly as I am fearful I shall not again see him.

ALS, DLC (39).

1. AJ Jr.'s siblings were children of Rachel Jackson's brother Severn Donelson and his wife Elizabeth Rucker, from whom AJ and Rachel had adopted AJ Jr. AJ Jr.'s sister Lucinda Rucker Donelson (1812–1837) had married George Washington Martin (1792–1854) in 1830. His several brothers included his birth twin, Thomas Jefferson Donelson (1808–1895).

To Martin Van Buren

(Private)

Washington June 23rd. 1823

My Dr Sir

There has been another Parthian flight from this city who, like his companion has attempted to throw his darts behind him—but they have fell harmless, except what recoild upon the fugitive.[1] The Globe of this day will give you a full account of the ridiculous & cowardly farce played of by Mr Ingham here on yesterday morning—least you do not get the daily Globe I herewith inclose one to you.

I leave here for the rip Raps tomorrow and have been so much engaged to day & night, that I cannot enter more in detail than the Globe will furnish you, if I can get one of the Globes of tomorrow, I will also forward it.[2]

I wish my Dr Sir, that you would forward me your views on the various subjects I mentioned to you, at as early a period as your convenience will permit. I wish them soon, so as to be able to prepare my message to the next congress with great care—for I have now to meet Calhouns whole Phalanks, with all their secrete intrigue, & malace—be it so, they are harmless when they have to fight openly and under their own flag. Mr Balch is now here—he informs me that Mr Calhoun is much engaged in his usual avocations of secretely trying to injure me—he, degraded man, who is really to be pitied, can do me no harm, he is now too well known to be believed, or to do much harm to any one—

Our friend judge Overton left me last Friday for the Rip Raps; I hear from him to day, that he is not so well, & I must go to him tomorrow, to

cheer him and take care of him for a few days. I shall expect to hear from you soon

I have not heard from Judge White yet—he had left Knoxville the day before my letter reached there, to try to bring his dying daughter home, who had lost her Infant child on the last day of May at judge Overtons. I hope for a letter from him tommorrow. I have appointed Mr Tauney atto. Genl[3] I hope to hear from Mr Rives tomorrow as I see the Havre Packet has reached Newyork.[4] Present me to your sons, & believe me sincerely yr friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (18-0092).

1. The ancient Parthians were known for their tactic of shooting arrows at a pursuing enemy during a retreat.

2. The Rip Raps was an artificial island in Hampton Roads. AJ had previously vacationed there in 1829.

3. Lawyer and politician Roger Brooke Taney (1777–1864) had been attorney general of Maryland since 1827. Livingston wrote him on June 21 conveying AJ's offer of appointment as U.S. attorney general.

4. The packet *Francois I* out of Havre reached New York on June 22, but carried no dispatches from Rives.

From Anthony Butler

[The italicized passages in this text were written by Butler in a numeric code and decoded on the manuscript. The underlinings are Butler's.]

Mexico. 23. June 1831.

Dear Sir,

In my last of the 7th instt by way of New Orleans, I informed you of Mr. Alaman (the Secretary of State) having left the Capital directly after the adjournment of Congress on a tour to the South West visiting his Estates, and that he designed being absent during the recess; He has not yet returned, but as Congress will be again assembled early in July, the arrival of the Secretary may be daily expected.[1] I shall seek the earliest occasion after he does return, to bring the subject of *texas* before him; as however it is one abounding in difficulties and requiring to be treated with great caution and delicacy, my approaches must be conducted very gradually, so as to permit my reconnoitering every foot of the ground before I advance on it, and this added to the usual and characteristic slowness of Spaniards in all matters of business may make the Negotiation a work of time. With all the difficulties however surrounding the subject, and they are by no means underrated, I know them many and great; I shall go into it, if not with full confidence, yet certainly without despairing; I have turned the subject in my mind, and think I understand it—the question will be presented in two aspects and if fortunate enough to make it seen

in either aspect as I hope to do, the impression made will be certain and my life on the result.

Some of the difficulties to be vanquished in this Negotiation were suggested to you in my letter of the 25 ulto. and one of the most formidable springs from the use which the present party in power deemed it politic to make of that Topic during the civil war of the past year: Great excitement was produced in certain sections of the Country against Genl. Guerrero by publications in the Newspapers charging him with having intended to sell and transfer *Texas* to the *U.S.* and to give the greatest effect to the charge the Country was described as a perfect El Dorado, even to contemplate the alienation of which was no less than Treason: This fabrication did its work in many places most effectually, and created a great ferment; the people responding to the charge, that Presidt. Guerrero deserved expulsion from Office for even intending this transfer, if there were no other charge against him. Hence you must perceive that the present *administration* will proceed with great caution and hesitancy towards the consummation of an act the bare contemplation of which by their *Predecessor* was loudly and bitterly denounced as treasonable: but as one of the views I take of the question will supply a plausible if not conclusive argument for a transfer now, although it might properly have been deemed treasonable in 1828, '9 the great object of suppressing popular clamor will be attained: The other view is based on the pecuniary consideration, and as the influence of money is as well understood and as readily conceded by these people as any other under Heaven, I have no doubt of its doing its office, So without entering at present into detail with you, I content myself with giving the outline which I hope to make the Secretary comprehend as I wish it should be understood and if so the matter is settled.

As I desire to be prepared at all points in an affair so justly deemed of the greatest interest—involving interests as I think paramount to the fee simple value of Territory merely, you will be pleased to instruct me officially whether *The sum of 5 millions* the maximum according to the instructions given my *Predecessor* is the largest amount to be offered and given under any circumstances—or whether we had not better even go as far as *Seven millions* to attain an object so desirable, if it should be discovered in the progress *of the negotiation* that the only obstacle to a favorable termination was in the difference of opinion as to *price*—instruct me on this point clearly and precisely.[2]

Since the termination of the Civil war, the people of the interior States, and the State authorities also in the States remote from the Capital, have recommenced the system of hostility against foreigners displayed not only in Language of which it appears they are not sparing, but by gross outrages committed on person and property. In this our Citizens come in for a full share; and mail after mail my Table is covered with remonstrances against the Conduct of the State authorities, and letters to me complaining of the injustice they suffer and the contumely heaped on them by the petty

officers under State authority especially of the State of Chihuahua, for the details and facts in relation to which I refer you to despatch No. 14. of the 6th. instant to the Department of State by way of New Orleans.

I beg leave to repeat to you what I said in my letter of the 25th. ulto.—that on some fit occasion, and the earlier the better, Mr. *Montoya* should be made to understand what impressions such unfriendly conduct has made on you—and the expectation you indulge of an immediate corrective being applied. To all my remonstrances on the subject the Genl. Govermt. reply that they have done all within their competency to effect; This amounts to no more than issuing orders addressed to Governor's of States from whence complaints issue recommending them to suspend proceedings in the cases of arbitrary exactions of money under the name of Local taxes, and which recommendation the Governor respects and obeys or contemns according as their interests or some peculiar circumstance may happen to recommend. I really think these people ought to be spoken to in a tone to convince them that they are not feared, as they seem now to believe and boast they are, and as such sentiments will more properly come from Yourself through the Department of State than from me, I have thought proper to submit these remarks—if however I should be selected as the Organ of Communication, I need not tell you how gladly I should repeat to them and enforce that Sentence from your Message where you declare that your policy towards foreign nations will be "to ask nothing but what is right and to submit to nothing that is wrong"[3]

Candidates for the next Presidency are beginning to be spoken of—already the friends of Mr. Alaman, Governor Camacho and General Teran declare they will be Candidates, and nobody doubts but that Genl. Bravo and General Santa Ana will be added to the list—and in such a contest with three ~~Candidates~~ Generals one of whom must be rejected, perhaps more, is at once planting the seeds of another Acordada or plan of Jalapa; I know these people so well as to be convinced that in any contest for office in which a military man of high Grade is defeated by the Ballot box, that he will contest the return and appeal to the scrutiny of the Bayonet; so I look for another Civil war in the course of 1832 at latest.[4] You are aware that we have a Consular Convention to form, and some other matters, that will require Treaty paper. Be pleased Sir to order that a dozen quires or more be sent me from the Department of State, as no such thing can be had here, and the Commercial Treaty exhausted the last sheet on hand. Mr. Poinsett left about 40 Sheets in the Office of the Legation one half of which I was compelled to furnish to the Mexican Governmt. In the hope of soon hearing from you, I beg leave to subscribe myself with the highest respect Dr. Sir your most Obedt. Sevt.

A: Butler

[Endorsed by AJ:] A. Butler

ALS, DLC (39). AJ replied on August 17 (below).

1. Butler probably sent his June 7 letter with a dispatch he wrote to the State Department on June 6, which was never received.

2. At AJ's direction, Van Buren had instructed then-minister Joel R. Poinsett on August 25, 1829, to offer Mexico a maximum of $5 million for Texas (*Jackson Papers*, 7:364–67).

3. In his first annual message to Congress on December 8, 1829, AJ had declared his "settled purpose to ask nothing that is not clearly right and to submit to nothing that is wrong" (Richardson, 2:443). American merchants in the Mexican state of Chihuahua had complained about illegal exactions and official abuse under an October 30, 1830, decree of the Chihuahuan legislature imposing discriminatory taxes on traders from countries that had no commercial treaty with Mexico. Butler remonstrated to Alamán, who replied on April 29, 1831, that he had recommended the suspension or repeal of the Chihuahuan decree. Butler denounced the central government's fecklessness to Van Buren on May 26, and protested to Alamán on May 27 that his instruction to suspend the tax was being ignored. The Mexican foreign office replied on June 11 that the national executive had no power in such cases other "than to make observations to the Governments of the States respecting laws and decrees," which it had done, and to bring the matter before the Mexican Congress, which it would do. The merchants' complaints continued into 1832 (*HRDoc* 351, 25th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 71–72, 374–75, 378–79, 383–87, 86–92, Serial 332).

4. Sebastián Camacho Castilla (1791–1847) had been Mexico's foreign secretary and governor of Veracruz. Nicolás Bravo Rueda (1786–1854) was a general and former vice president of Mexico. Antonio López de Santa Anna (1794–1876) was a Mexican general and later president.

From John Freeman Schermerhorn

Utica June 23rd. 1831

My dear Friend

Although I have not written you for a long time I assure you I have not been an indifferent spectator of the passing scenes of your administration & the difficulties, with which you have had to contend. If it were necessary for your encouragement & support, in the trying & responsible station you occupy I would give it as my deliberate & unprejudiced opinion that your administration thus far will be viewed by future generations, when the noise, turmoil & misrepresentation of mere party politicians has passed away; as second only to that of the Father of his country.

What I suggested in the former communication as a principal difficulty you had to apprehend, from divisions in your cabinet growing out of ulterior personal views & pretensions, has transpired. ~~And~~ I rejoice that the magnanimous conduct of our mutual friend Mr. V. B. has relieved you from your embarrassments; and thus enabled you to form an entire new cabinet; without sacrificing yourself or your real friends The cabinet you have selected has I believe the entire confidence of your friends and the dissatisfaction of the opposition arises wholly because the selection was so judicious; that they are disarmed, & have no weapons to weild against them. I think you are now placed in a situation to carry on the measures of your administration triumphantly & with entire success.

I see only two subjects which the opposition can use with any probable effect against you. These are the U. S. Bank & Indian questions I am perhaps entirely incompetent to say any thing to the purpose on Bank question; but I will venture to state if such an institution is in strict accordance with the principles of the constitution, yet its present powers & privileges are such as no monied institution ought to have in this republic; for it is capable of being brought to bear with tremendous consequences to the interest of the country. I doubt however the policy while I commend the principle on which you have acted in noticing, as you did this institution in your former messages to Congress. You have now all its influence dead against you; and I see no alternative for you but to persevere in the course you have taken let the consequences be what they may. And although they have now no doubt many presses under their controul; and fill the country with their statements; yet I think the democracy of the country will sustain you triumphantly through another canvass for the Chief Magistracy of these U. States

With regard to the removal of the Indians beyond the Missisippi, as far as I understand your views, I cordially approve of them; because I think them not only honorable & dictated by the best feelings & sympathies of an honest heart, for an injured & oppressed people, as to their future prosperity as a people & their eternal welfare as immortal beings. If this takes place it must be voluntary on their part and not by oppression legalized, or otherwise The main effort therefore is to be directed to hold up sufficient inducements for them to remove. As far as an exchange & purchase of property, & provisions for removal & settlement is concerned government have no doubt done sufficient. I would however suggest whether there should not be further provisions for their *permanent* intellectual, moral & religious improvement & civilization and for their political existence & importance; so that in process of time they may be incorporated as a member of the political confederacy of these U. States. For instance what evil could arise from immediately organizeing those Indians into a territorial Government under such regulations & stipulations, as their present state & condition requires, giving them a representative in congress. Were you to propose some such measure I am persuaded it would be very popular with the Christian community at large; and have a favourable influence upon the Indians.

If some central situation was to be fixed upon, as the seat of Government for the Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws & Chickesaws, as common ground for all and which should be the seat of all Governmental improvements & expenditures in their behalf—such as the higer schools, and instruction in agriculture, arts & sciences & trades, where persons are to be prepared & fited to go & settle and give instruction in the different settlements of the tribes, much might be accomplished, in a little while and with great economy, for their rapid & permanent improvements.

I have no doubt that a great obstacle to the removal of the Indians has arisen from the influence of their religious teachers over them, not openly exerted; for even their silence cannot be misunderstood on this all absorbing question. If an influence could be brought to bear upon the Missionaries; & the Societies which support them; so as to favour their removal; there would be no difficulty in accomplishing it at once, and to this point I think the efforts of the government ought to be directed

And all that is necessary to be done is to persuade them that the design of the Government is not merely to possess the lands of the Indians but their civilization, moral & religious improvement and political existence as a member of the confederacy when prepared for it. This can only be accomplished by some individuals in whom they & the Government can place mutual confidence. I think in the present aspect of affairs some thing favourable to the ~~removal~~ *[. . .]* of the government & to hasten the r*[emoval]* might be accomplished. I am per[sonall]y acquainted with many of the A. B. C. F. M & some of them are my personal friends.[1] If I can be of any service in this matter you have only to give me your views & wishes. I go to N. York in a few days & shall be there & vicinity until about the first of August. If you have occasion to write to me, or wish to see me on this subject, a letter addressed to the care of Samuel Swarthout Collector N. York will come to hand.

I saw Mr. V. B. last night on his way to Oswego in fine health & spirits. With my best wishes for your present & eternal welfare, I am with great Respect Your affectionate friend

J. F. Schermerhorn

[Endorsed by AJ:] The Revd. Mr Shemerhorn to be answered A. J

ALS, DLC (39). Schermerhorn (1786–1851) was a Dutch Reformed minister and missionary. AJ appointed him an Indian commissioner in 1832.

1. The interdenominational American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions supplied numerous Indian missions and had vigorously opposed AJ's removal policy.

To Susan Wheeler Decatur

Washington June 24th. 1831

My dear Madam

Your letter of the 22nd. instant is just received, & I hasten to reply to it.

You do me great injustice in your remarks of my neglect. The vacancy created in the State Department required the talents of Mr Vail to fill it, the request made by Mr Livingston for Mr Vail to be transfered to his Department, produced a vacancy in the General Land office. This vacancy, on enquiry of the commissioner, required a very experienced examiner & correct accountant to fill it, and I could not deprive him of so able &

examiner & clark to accomodate Mr Livingston without replacing him by one of known, & equal capacity. Upon a personal interview I had with judge Hayward & Dr Jones, it appeared satisfactory & proper to give the vacated office to Mr Tiler, who was an old & experienced clerk, who has a large family & has been ten years in that office, and to give Dr Jones the situation Mr Tiler so long held. It is very mortifying you know, for old & competant clerks to be overslaud by placing young and inexperienced Gentlemen over them, however talented they may be. I assure you the duties assigned to Mr Vail require the most exact experienced calculator & accountant, who can detect the most minute errors, that would throw every thing into confusion, to great public, as well as individual injury. I could not hazzard the responsibility of placing a clerk in that ~~responsible~~ situation contrary to the consent of the commissioner, who, is responsible for the faithful performance of all the duties appertaining to his Bureau, without being first informed that Dr Jones, from actual experience, was competant to fulfil the delicate, & important duty that had been assigned to Mr Vail. It was therefore proposed that Dr Jones should be employed in the place from whence Mr Tiler was promoted, until from a short experience it might be discoved, what duties he could best perform, when, for your benefit, he might be promoted, or transfered to some other more lucrative office.[1]

you are badly advised as to Mr Watson, his change was urged on me from professed feelings of humanity, to his widowed mother & his large family, that he might be able to remove them, to some place from this city. You mistake me very much when you believe I am capable of soliciting favours from dismissed officers, or any one else, where I have the power to command, or that I am capable to do any act of impropriety—as to the publication of your letter I beg leave to bring to your recollection that it was made public by yourself, as an act of justice to me & the memory of your Gallant Husband, for which you receved my warmest gratitude, and I will retain a lively recollection of it, as long as I live.[2]

I will again bring to the view of Messhrs. Livingston & Woodbury, your distresses, your claims, & your wishes, who, I am sure, as well as myself, will seize the first opportunity, that can be done with propriety, keeping in view the public interest, to meet your views, & relieve your distress.

Having to set out to the Rip Raps to day, I shall not have the pleasure of seeing you, until you return from the Manor unless I should be so fortunate as to be able to visit my friend Mr Carroll & his amiable family, to whom I pray you to present my kind salutations. I am with great respect your most obdt. servt.

Andrew Jackson

ALS, The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History (mAJs). AL draft, DLC (52; 18-0095). *Chicago Tribune*, May 23, 1872.

1. Eugene Aaron Vail (1795–1843) had been the senior accountant in the General Land Office. On June 20, he replaced Hore Browse Trist, just appointed surveyor general of public lands in Louisiana, as State Department clerk in charge of consular correspondence. On June 21, GLO accountant Charles Tyler was promoted to fill Vail's vacated post. Decatur had written Livingston on June 17 and 18, accusing AJ of breaking a promise to appoint her friend Dr. Jones (Livingston Papers, NjP). AJ wrote Livingston about him on June 28 (below). He was probably Georgetown physician James Jones (1807–1873), who removed to New Orleans in October.

2. Andrew Jackson Watson (1802–1860), son of Rachel Jackson's friend Elizabeth Courts Love Watson (1777–1853) and the late James Watson, had been a Treasury clerk. AJ appointed him a Navy purser on May 1. Referring probably to his appointment, Decatur's June 17 letter to Livingston suggested that AJ could well ask GLO commissioner Hayward the favor of an appointment for Jones, as "he did not hesitate to ask *a favor* from Mr Branch after he had turn'd him out of office!" To counter campaign reports that her late husband Stephen Decatur had disapproved of AJ, Susan Decatur had written AJ on January 22, 1828, avowing "the unbounded gratitude and admiration he invariably expressed for your services and character." AJ had published the letter, with her sanction, in the Frankfort, Ky., *Argus of Western America* on August 27, 1828 (*Jackson Papers*, 6:433–35).

To Edward Livingston

June 24th. 1831—

The President with his respects to the Secretary of State, requests to see him early this morning, on the subject of a fit character to fill the office of Secretary of War. Judge White from his letter just received having finally declined, from the situation of his family

AN, NjP-Livingston Papers (mAJs).

From Alfred Balch

Extract from a letter from the V Pt. to _____ dated 5th. March, 31. "It is however really mortifying, to think that the President has permitted himself to be so completely duped by his old and deadly enemies against his early and steady friends. I fear that his faculties have decayed or that the world has been deceived as to his real character."

Extract of a letter from J. C. C. to _____ dated 10th April 1831 written from Fort Hill. Dr. Sir, I concur with you in thinking that we have all been mistaken in the character of General Jackson. What was ever so strange and indicates greater weakness & want of sound feelings than that in the space of two years he should place himself in the hands of those who had recently so bitterly opposed him & should transfer his resentment against his uniform friends & supporters? All of this has been effected by artifices at once shallow & profligate.

_____ gave me the first information as to the movments against me at Nashville but I think that the name of Mr B did not appear in his statement tho I am not certain.

Tho Jackson & myself are forever seperated, yet I feel a stronger attachment than ever if possible to the great body of the party with whom I co-operated in bringing him into power. They have sustained me in a manner, in my conflict with him, that will ever be remembered with gratitude. My friends in _____ to whom I feel the strongest attachment, need not fear that I will take any step, that will embarrass them. The next session will be time enough to assume my position, & they may rest assured, that whatever it may be, my obligations to them and my friends generally & my duty to the country will both enter into the elements on which my decision will rest. The course of the Globe is infamous. It was got up, it is thought, in express reference to the correspondence & may be considered the organ of the conspiracy. I have no fear that its attacks will injure me. The source in which they originate is too well known. The effect, much more probable is, that it will bring out new disclosures, for I have not the least idea, that I have all of the links of the conspiracy. I believe for instance that Jackson was apprized, as far back as 1825, when he and Crawford were reconciled, of the part I took in the Cabinet, through Cobb as fully as he now is, & that the information was repeated in 1828. Balch doubtless knows much, if he would speak out His answer to Crawford would be a curious document. It must one day or another see the light.[1] For your kind feelings towards me accept my sincere thanks. Should any thing occur I would be happy to hear from you. With sincere regard I am &c &c &c. J. C. Calhoun.

The foregoing was written to a gentleman friendly to me & friendly to Calh. who is a candidate for *popular* favour & who suggested that his Calhouns opposition to you would injure his Calhouns friends in their efforts to become acceptable to the people. It may be proper to state that the foregoing were not addressed to any member of Congress of Tennessee. I am not at liberty to state the name of Mr Cahs. correspondent. The clear object of the writer is, to shew that Genl Jn. either wants principle or is so weak as to be duped & that he Calhoun loves dearly the Jackson party & regrets that he cannot any longer respect its chief.

AD, DLC (40; 18-0102). *Calhoun Papers*, 11:373–75. Balch probably gave AJ these extracts between June 23, when AJ noted his presence in Washington to Van Buren (above), and June 27, when AJ wrote John C. McLemore that the extracts had "just been furnished" him (below).

1. This would be Balch's reply to Crawford's December 14, 1827, letter hoping that Calhoun "will not be benefitted by Jackson's election," which Calhoun's February 17 and 25, 1831, *Telegraph* publications had identified as the origin of the conspiracy against him.

To William Berkeley Lewis

(Private)

Rip Raps june 26th. 1831

Dr Major

We had a pleasant & speedy passage arriving here at half past one yesterday, & finding judge Overton much mended.

I have spent the day at church, and have just returned from old Point, where I have seen & conversed with many of the citizens. The letter of Mr Ingham, & the correspondence between Major Eaton & him, had reached here via Baltimore before our arrival, by which they citizens had a sight of the Globe, & from which, a reaction has taken place that has overwhelmed Ingham into eternal disgrace.[1] I cannot suppose that there was any truth in the report that Branch was to be at washington on yesterday. I am sure he will not visit Washington unless it be to disavow any authority given by him to the Editor of the Telegraph the publication he made. Branch has no way to save himself from disgrace but voluntarily writing Major Eaton such a letter as a gentleman and disavowing every, & any participation in the slanders against Mrs. Eaton. But should he go to Washington, & not address a letter of the tenor, above, Major Eatons call upon him, will produce it. This I am very certain of in my own mind.

I will be impatient until I hear from you—give my respects to Major Eaton & his Lady, to Major Barry, to Livingston & Woodbury, Mr Kendall & all friends, and be sure to write me as often as a safe opportunity will permit, & send me such private letters as may reach you by mail. Judge Overton has agreed to remain here until next Wednesday week, & will accompany me to Washing where we will arive on Thursday week—when I hope we will meet you in improved health, and general tranquility. I am in haste, very respectfully your friend

Andrew Jackson

P.S. I have but a moment to write, as I have just heard that Lt. Lee is about starting up to Washington. I have written below a power for you to check for such sums as may be needed in my absence.[2] Say to Major Barry that I hope to find him in Washington, when I return A. J

ALS, NN (18-0109).

1. Old Point Comfort, site of Fort Monroe, is at the tip of the Virginia Peninsula. On June 24 the *Globe* published a statement by Eaton, written June 23. Eaton pled "not guilty" to Ingham's "charge of conspiracy and meditated assassination." Rather, as Ingham had "wantonly insulted" him and then "shunned all honorable accountability" by refusing his challenge, Eaton had determined to punish him, though not kill him. The four government officers Ingham had accused were not involved, and Eaton himself as "matter of duty" had relinquished the War Department on June 18 before seeking out Ingham. On June 19 he sent Philip G. Randolph to tell Ingham his intention. On June 20 he "did endeavor to meet Mr. Ingham, and to settle our difference. Unattended by any one, I sought after, and awaited his appearance, during the accustomed hours for business, openly and at places where he

daily passed to his office. He was not to be found! I passed by, but at no time stopped at, or attempted to enter his house, nor to besiege it by day or by night." Eaton said he regretted mentioning Ingham's wife in his June 20 note, which was "written with indignant feelings" and not intended for publication.

2. This same day, AJ wrote a directive to cashier Richard Smith of the Washington BUS branch to honor checks written by Lewis on AJ's account during his absence from the city.

To John Christmas McLemore

Rip Raps June 27th. 1831—

My Dr. Sir

I have come here to spend a few days with my friend judge Overton for the benefit of his, & my own health & to have a little rest from the bustle of business, & the throng of strangers, that are uusualy great at this season in the city, & the repainting of my dwelling, which was, I thought, very injurious to my health, & made me very subject to my excrutiating head ache.

The unexpected, & extraordinary conduct of Mr Branch first, and then Ingham, assuming the character of the parithean, who flies & throws their poisoned darts behind, has astonished many, altho not me; I knew for some time, that Treachery existed some where in my Cabinet, and that it was not in either Van Buren, or faithful Eaton. I always knew that the attack upon Eaton, was intended to effect me, not Major Eaton. This has shewn itself, or why has the persecution been secretely carried on by Ingham thro the Telegraph, since Eaton has resigned, only to serve the mean vindictive, & cowardly course of Mr Calhoun. I always knew this—and I as well knew, *lately*, that Ingham & Branch were his puppets, secretely maneuvering, to destroy van Buren, & prostrate me. But altho in 1819, Mr Monroe, through the advice of Calhoun, got Mr John Rhea to apply to me, & get me, to burn his confidential letter to me, written in Janry 1818, in reply to my confidential letter to Mr Monroe of the 6th. of Janry 1818, still I have, *now*, in my possession the possitive statement of Mr Rhea, that my confidential letter was shewn to him, by Mr Munroe, & he was requested to write, & did write to me, that the view I had taken *was, approved*, by the President I have also the statement of judge Overton who had Rheas letter before him, with the other confidential letters, when he wrote the defence of the Executive, & his commanding Genl—and I have seen a letter from a Gentleman of high standing in South Carolina, saying that he has Calhouns letter, before I entered Florida, saying that Florida ought not only to be seized, but held as an indemnity for her depredations &c &c. When the nation are informed that this was his course, such was his orders to me, a chart Blanch; what curses must not a moral and virtuous people pronounce on a man, (when he expected I was in my Grave) would move my arrest, for the disobedience of orders, which he knew I had fulfilled to a tittle, & that too,

agreable to the expressed views of the Government. Calhoun & his puppets, male & female, have been secretely at work to destroy me, and they have been too successful, to blind my connections & part of my family, & would have effected it, if I had not reorganised my Cabinet. But my dear Sir Providence takes care of me, & I will triumph over all those base men, with all the secrete intrigues of Calhoun, and his satilites. Ingham has damnd. himself forever—he remained under the pretext of finishing the standard of our weights, & measures, whilst he was corresponding with his master, & putting forth through the Telegraph all his secrete slanders against Mrs. Eaton; he was caught, and I enclose you a paper containing the correspondence between Eaton, & him, & his letter me, after he had *fled* from the city, with the declarations of the Gentlemen who he charged in his letter. Any man who would tell such *positive falshoods* against men in high offices, it is not to wondered that he would be mean enough, for political effect, to slander a female & fly guarded, from that punishment, that all such merit. I have *always* viewed those who secretely pirate upon female character worse than the Pirate on the high seas—and as the latter is considered the enemy of the human race—the former is worse, & ought to be treated accordingly. When you hear the whole farce, it is one the most cowardly & shameful ever recorded. I have a history of the flight by a Gentlemen who travelled in view of them in the mail stage, breakfasted at the same tavern, where they placed centinels at the door, whilst Eating & sat to table with their arms. This farce was commanded by the *redoubtable Col. Towson* aided by six janisaries—whilst Major Eaton was passing thro the city alone, no one friend near him that he knew of, and none armed, unless the major was. It is true I believe, if he had met Mr. Ingham he would have chastised him—and as far as I have investigated the matter, the plot of assasination was by Inghams party, to assasinate Eaton—but it was in unison with Calhouns whole intrigue, cry plot, plot, where the plot is only on his side. It corresponds well with his intrigue with the femal Gossips of the city, who raised the cry of w— w— when some of his gossips could not today, produce as fair a character as Mrs. Eaton, and against whose chastity more had been said than ever had been against Mrs. Eaton, but Eaton was my friend, it was necessary to drive from me if possible, all who would not bend to Calhouns ambitious views, and to accomplish this object, if I would not bend to his views, I was to be crushed. Calhoun is still going with secrete intrigues to injure me. I have just been furnished with extracts of letters he has been writing to some of his friends in Tennessee who are out for public favor. I have only time to give one, the ballance are in the same stile. extract from a letter written by Calhoun to _____ of the 5th. of march 1831 "It is however really mortifying to think, that the President has permitted himself to be so compleatly duped by *his old, and deadly enemies*, against his early and steady friends." (does he mean himself) "the world has been deceived as to his real character" again 10th of april 1831 he say "I concur with you

in thinking, that we have all been mistaken in the true character of Genl Jackson. What was ever so strange, and indicates greater weakness, & want of sound feelings, than that in the space of two years he should place himself in the hands of those who, had secretely so bitterly opposed him, & should transfer his resentment against his uniform friends & supporters all this has been effected by artifices at once shallow & profligate."[1]

This is in unison with all his *falshoods* & hypocracy ?Who but him has secretely, but under professions of friendship attempted to injure me, ~~but himself whilst professing the most undeviating friendship~~ Mr Crawford was openly opposed, & hostile to me—Calhoun secretely, until his hypocracy and duplicity was unveiled. ¿When have I deserted an old friend, *never*; a man thus prone to duplicity & lying—& the dishonorable conduct of secretely slandering, can never succeed, and in due time, I will expose him and his secrete conspirators, to the full glare of the world, & to infamy

Present me to your family affectionately, & let me hear how my son progresses with his education.[2] Let me know how you get on with your business, you have my best wishes & shall have my aid if needed, as far as my means will permit—say to my son I wish him to return to me so soon as he can attend to the business I sent him on & believe me your friend. Judge Overton is mending fast.

Andrew Jackson

ALS, NHi (18-0117).

1. These extracts were furnished to AJ by Alfred Balch on or about June 25 (above).
2. AJ's "son" was his namesake, McLemore's son Andrew Jackson McLemore (b. 1820).

From William Berkeley Lewis

Washington 27 June 1831

D Genl.

Herewith I send you two letters from Nashville. I broke the envelope of one, but finding it marked *private* I again enclosed it without reading it. I also send you a letter from Mr. Van Buren, enclosing a private letter from Mr. Moore.[1]

Nothing of any interest has occured here since you left us. Mr. Livingston informs me that he has recd. a letter from Mr. Taney informing him that he accepts the appointment of Atto Genl., which I suppose he will advise you of by to days mail. Mr. Taney says he will be in Washington as soon as the Court of Appeals, at Anapolis, adjourns, which will be in a few days.[2]

It seems that there was no very great parade made over Mr. Ingham on his arrival in Phila.[3] The Sentinel rather backs out from its charges against Campbell, Smith, & myself.[4] I think if Eaton and his wife were now to go

to Tennessee, the papers would cease to abuse them, and things here and elsewhere would become, comparitively, quiet; but it is a subject upon which *I* cannot venture to speak to him.

I spent the *whole* of yesterday in looking over your letters and papers, but was unable to find any private letter from Mr. Calhoun. I found two letters, one from Gadsden, the other from Hayne, written from Washington, which speak of Mr. Calhoun and the Seminole war. From these any one would infer the writers considered Mr. Calhoun to be most decided in favour of your proceedings on that campaign. Col. Gadsdens letter refers to one previously written, and *more fully* upon the subject, which I have not been able to find.[5] I shall continue my search but I dispair of finding any *private* letters from the Vice President upon that subject in 1818. I think tho' his correspondence with you in 1828, upon the subject of Mr. Monroes confidential letter, shows pretty clearly his determination to conceal his course and *feeling* in the cabinet concils of Mr. Monroe in 1818.[6] In fact there is not a letter of his or any other persons, that I have seen, which indicates even his belief that you had transcended ~~his~~ your orders.

I send you the Globe of this morning which contains a most able defense of Major Barry, and at the same time annihilates his enemies.[7]

Please remember me with much kindness to Judge Overton and Mr. Earle, and believe me to be, sincerely yours

W B Lewis

ALS, CSmH (18-0114).

1. Mr. Moore was probably minister to Colombia Thomas Patrick Moore (1797–1853), who wrote Van Buren privately on May 21 and 28 (DNA-RG 59, T33-6).

2. Taney wrote Livingston accepting the attorney generalship on June 24 (DNA-RG 59, M179-70). He was commissioned and assumed his duties on July 20.

3. On June 24 the Philadelphia *American Sentinel* reported Ingham's quiet arrival from Baltimore the night before. On June 25 it reported that "a very large number of citizens" had called at his hotel to commend him and that plans were afoot for a major welcoming celebration. On June 27, under the heading "Mr. Ingham At Home!!," it reported that on June 25 a large procession escorted Ingham to his home in Bucks County with "loud, hearty and repeated cheers," a collation, and speeches.

4. On June 23 the Philadelphia *American Sentinel* printed a report from Washington that on June 20 Eaton, Randolph, "and others, took their stations, armed for battle," in the Treasurer's office around 11:00 a.m. and remained, alternating stations, for two hours, then moved to a grocery store between Ingham's residence and the Treasury building. Ingham was warned at his residence and accompanied by friends to the Treasury. "These desperadoes," seeing him prepared, did not attack and later "were seen skulking away."

Two days later, on June 25, the *Sentinel* printed Ingham's accusatory June 21 letter to AJ, AJ's June 22 letter to Campbell, Lewis, Randolph, and Smith, and their replies. The *Sentinel* observed that the four men, "like all persons over anxious to contradict a charge, admit substantially all the *facts* which Mr. Ingham connects them with." He had accused only Eaton and Randolph of "lying in wait," the others merely with being in their company. Since Washington offices closed at 3:00 PM., that was "the most convenient season for *assaulting* him." Noting that Campbell's "*accidental* meeting of a few minutes" was doubtless at his Treasury office, and that Lewis and Smith admitted meeting Eaton just before 3:00, the edi-

tors "ask the intelligent reader if they have not, under their own hands, furnished conclusive evidence of the correctness of Mr. Ingham's statement, to the letter."

5. James Gadsden had written AJ on September 28, 1818, mentioning an earlier letter in which he had related Calhoun's explanation of administration aims in Florida. Gadsden criticized Monroe's public equivocation but assured AJ that the Cabinet "secretly approve & do believe your operations were justified by the necessity of the case & the only ones calculated to put down the Indian Hostilities" (*Jackson Papers*, 4:241–42).

6. This was AJ's 1828 correspondence with Calhoun concerning Monroe's September 9, 1818, confidential proposal to Calhoun that AJ be invited to state his understanding of his orders in Florida for the record (*Jackson Papers*, 6:450–51, 461–63, 480–81).

7. A lengthy June 27 *Globe* article lauded Barry's management of the Post Office Department and rebutted the charges made against him in the Senate as "fabrications of the embittered, envious and disappointed factions, against whom the people have pronounced."

To Edward Livingston

Rip Raps june 28th. 6 oclock p.m. 31—

My Dr Sir

I have this moment recd. yours of the 25th. instant, & hasten to reply by the Steam Boat Potomac which passes old Point early tomorrow.

Let instructions be given that Mr Wellenstein, the Russian Consul, have permission to go out on Board the Warren Sloop of War, as you inform me that Mr Woodbury says it will be quite convenient that he does so. How does Mr Jeffrays go to his destination[1]

I have no doubt but Mr Rives will by next Packet send us something final, & that is the cause of his not writing by the last, wishing to have it in his power to give the conclusion of the negotiation, in his next. When we receive a final adjustment of our claims with France it will be time anough to look out for a fit person to proceed to Naples, we have been harrassed since the commencement of our late negotiation with France, first, to send an agent to aid Mr Rives, second to send a negotiator to Naples. Our claims adjusted with France, and it follows as a matter of course, that a demand will produce justice from Naples, & Spain, and until that is done, we need send none to Naples; and it may be worthy of consideration ~~whether~~ if Mr Rives succeeds with France, whether, he will not be the best agent to charge with the negotiation with Naples. *Think of this*. I will be with you next Thursday week if spared.[2]

I have just recd a letter from Mrs. S. Decatur. I request that you & Mr Woodbury consult together, & if nothing better for the present can be done for her friend Dr. Jones, see Judge Hayward & let him give him the office promised worth $1000—or place him in the office from which Mr Tyler has been promoted.

In great haste I am very respectfully your friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, NjP-Livingston Papers (mAJs).

1. Livingston had written AJ on June 25 asking permission to offer departing Russian diplomat Jules de Wallenstein (d. 1845) passage to his new post in Brazil on a Navy vessel (NjP, 18-0104). He said Woodbury had told him that the sloop *Warren* could accommodate Wallenstein without inconvenience. AJ had appointed William Nicholson Jeffers (1787–1853) as chargé d'affaires to Central America on June 14.

2. Livingston's June 25 letter to AJ had wondered at the recent silence of Rives, hitherto a scrupulous correspondent. Livingston said he had just seen a May 12 letter from an American in Paris, reporting that a claims settlement with France was imminent and suggesting that Naples should be next. American merchants had pressed AJ to pursue their spoliation claims against the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies, with its capital at Naples, since late 1830 (*Jackson Papers*, 8:613–15). Claimants against France had also approached the government in 1830 with proposals to send an agent to Paris to further a settlement by means including bribery. Van Buren had written Rives on April 3, 1830, warning of such schemes and asking if he wanted the help of an agent, and Rives had replied on May 29 that he did not (DNA-RG 59, M77-54 & M34-27). Rives wrote AJ on June 29 (below).

From John Randolph

London June 28. 1831. Tuesday.

My dear Sir,

The day before yesterday, I had the gratification—& it was no small one—to receive your most welcome letter of the 26th. of May. By the same packet, I received also the requisite official communications from the Secretary of State to enable me to close my mission to Russia. a few days before their arrival, I was attacked by hemorrhage from the lungs, from which I am not yet relieved. This obliges me to remain as quiet as possible. As soon however as is practicable I shall avail myself of your kind indulgence. The difficulties of communication with the Baltic Ports—to say nothing of the dangers—are such, that if there had been no other obstacle opposed to my return, I could not have proceeded to St. Petersburgh, under existing circumstances. I cannot take leave of this subject without reiterating my sense of your kind indulgence & repeating my earnest recommendation of Mr. J. R. Clay to your protection & favour.

It is possible that the state of my health may detain me in Europe until the next season. In which case I must entreat your favour to my letters &c: that they be transmitted through the Dept. of State to our legation here, as the readiest way of reaching me in whatever part of Europe I may be. I would write to Mr. Livingston but I am now trespassing on the bounds of prudence.

Reciprocating in the fullest manner your kind & friendly sentiments I remain Dr. Sir, your obliged & faithful

John Randolph of Roanoke

ALS, DLC (39).

From William Berkeley Lewis

Washington 29 June 1831

D. Genl.

I have nothing of any importance to communicate to day. I sent you all the *private* letters which were recd. on yesterday morning, by yesterdays mail.

Yours of the 26th. Inst was recd. yesterday about noon. I am truly glad to hear that you are all improving in health. Give my best respects to my friend the Judge, and say to him that if he continues to improve so rapidly he will become so *fat* I am afraid I shall not know him, when next I have the pleasure of seeing him. Your friends here are all well, and the affairs of the Government move on very smoothly. In yankee phraseology, I *guess* you will be able to get on just as well with the *new* as you did with the *old* Cabinet.

The Calhoun oppositionists are at *fault*. They have not been able to make any thing out of the clamour, that was raised at Inghams being compelled to leave the city under the *protection* of an *armed escort*; and they are trying now, to get on another scent. It is intended to charge you with a want of *candour*, in saying in your letter to Campbell, Smith & others, that it was the first time you had heard of *his* (Inghams) troubles. They say they will be able to prove that you knew, before that, all about the affair between Eaton & Ingham. It is wonderful—*truly astonishing*! that you on Wednesday the 22d. (the date of your letter) should know all about that *terrible* affair, when it was only *published* in the Telegraph one day before you wrote! Are they such fools as not to know, or rather such *knaves* as *will not* know, that you had referrence *alone* to that *bloody* conspiracy against the life of Mr. Ingham?

Major Barry will not leave here before you return. Remember me with kindness to all my friends and believe me to be, sincerely yours.

W B Lewis

ALS, DLC (39).

From William Cabell Rives

Paris June 29th 1831.

My dear Sir,

I have, at last, the satisfaction to announce to you that my long, difficult, and laborious negociation here is drawing to a close, and such an one as I trust, will be satisfactory to yourself, and the nation. I have just written to Mr Livingston, and beg leave to refer you to my communication to him, (which he will doubtless lay before you), for the details. The

sum which has been secured for the claims of our citizens, (so long ineffectually prosecuted and believed by many to be *desperate*) will, according to the best authorities, be sufficient to pay every cent that is justly due. At the same time, the claims of French subjects against the United States, some of which deeply concerned the national honor, have been gotten rid of for less than one third of their aggregate amount, and the onerous claim of exclusive priveleges in the ports of Louisiana, deriving much color from the language of the Treaty of cession of that country, and which the result of the arbitration, offered by the last administration might have fixed upon us *forever*, has been extinguished, by a measure which, is demonstrably advantageous to ourselves.[1]

The arrangement which will be made, by finishing at one stroke all the unpleasant discussions which have taken place between the two governments, will lay the foundation of lasting harmony and friendship with a nation, with whom we have the most important common interests, commercial and political.

I shall enjoy a high reward, for the labours and anxieties which this most arduous negociation has cost me, in knowing that its result is sanctioned by your approbation, and in the hope that it may contribute to confirm the confidence already shewn by our countrymen in the wisdom and energy which have presided over our affairs for the last two years, and whose continuance at the head of the government is so much to be desired for the best interests of the nation.

Mrs Rives desires to offer her particular respects to you, and I am, with the most cordial and distinguished sentiments your friend & serv.[2]

W. C. Rives.

P.S. I am aware that the ordinary rules of diplomatic prudence would require that nothing should be considered as *definitively done* till it has been signed and delivered; but the publicity given to this affair by the French government has left me no alternative but to treat as *definitively* arranged what they have given out to all the world *as such*. Your own discretion will suggest to you the degree of reserve with which the matter should be spoken of in the United States.

Copy, DLC-Rives Papers (18-0134).

1. Rives's June 29 dispatch to Livingston detailed the final stages of his negotiations with the French government (*HRDoc* 147, 22d Cong., 2d sess., pp. 208–12, Serial 235). On July 4 he concluded and signed a convention providing a comprehensive resolution of American and French commercial claims and counterclaims. In settlement of all American spoliation claims, France engaged to pay 25 million francs ($4.6 million) in six equal annual installments, plus four per cent interest on each payment from the date of the exchange of ratifications. In return the U.S. pledged 1.5 million francs to satisfy all French claims, payable on the same terms by deduction from the French payment. (The largest French claim was from the heirs of Pierre Augustin Caron de Beaumarchais for supplies furnished during the American Revolution.) Also, in return for a ten-year reduction in U.S. import duties on

French wines, France would lower its duty on American long-staple cotton and abandon its claim to indemnity for alleged American non-compliance with Article 8 of the 1803 Louisiana Purchase treaty, which had promised France most-favored-nation trading status in Louisiana ports (*Treaties*, 3:641–46). In 1827 the Adams administration had offered to arbitrate the Louisiana issue, which France had declined.

2. Rives's wife was Judith Page Walker Rives (1802–1882).

From Richard Gilliam Dunlap

[This letter is available only in later published versions.]

Lea Springs, Tennessee, June 30th, 1831.

Dear Sir:

This week affords me leisure from our courts and our elections to visit these valuable springs. My health is feeble & has been for this season.

This gives me a favorable opportunity to give you some plain hints.

Seated at the head of power, but few will say anything to you calculated to have any other effect but to please your pride or feed your vanity. All men have both.

My motive for first and last wishing you at the head of our great & happy nation, was that I believed you to be the best instrument to correct the growing evils & to bring back to first principles the wandering action of the Federal government. As this is and was my motive, I feel a deep solicitude in preserving unimpaired the whole usefulness of your publick station, which is the most honorable & responsible within the range of human power.

Mr Eaton leaves the War Dept. by the common consent and wish of all parties—while the nation may admire the firm friendship by you manifested for Mr Eaton, they can not but rejoice at the hope of his retirement. Mr W. B. Lewis, almost too small to write about, occupies a position before the nation alone from his presumed and assumed intimacy with you, which merits a little attention. Send him home and no longer hold yourself accountable to a free and enlightened people for the arrogant follies of such a small but busy man as he is.

His only importance is that by his hinting impudence, when out of your presence, of being in the Prst's confidence, he assumes the mask of an adviser. This holds you responsible for his silly conduct.

To speak plain, the opinion prevails at large that W. B. Lewis is one of your most confidential councillors. This fact does, whether it be true or false, seriously affect the public, it raises a suspicion of your fitness to rule; it paralizes every noble feeling of your friends, when it is said Billy Lewis is your Prests. councillor. As I have as little to ask as any other of your friends, I write this letter, which I know speaks the voice of Tennessee, as well as of every fragment of any party in this union. Your connection with

Messrs. E & L have injured you more in publick opinion, than all the acts of your friends & enemies combined.

The nation looked not to these feeble ministers for aid in directing the glorious destiny of the American people—when by the noblest feelings of patriotism they rallied on you to sustain the brightening prosperity of their country. The nation will be pleased to learn that Mr VanBuren will go to England, this will quiet the fears of conflicting aspirants and give the country some peace.

If Judge White's daughter, Mrs. Alexander, should change her situation as it is more than probable that she will, I am induced to believe that he would accept the War Dept., as it is urged on him by public feeling as well as by your wishes. I am satisfied that he would not like to take any step that would have an unhappy effect on our elections. If he were to accept during the canvass, it would no doubt have some influence on the elections, as the claims of aspirants for his place would be before the people—and our people are peculiar and not like any other.

For one, I believe it is important for your administration to have Judge White in the War Dept. It will silence the rumors that you have discarded your old friends and sought counsel amongst your new converts.

It will do still more for the country. The dignity of White's character, blended with talents and integrity acknowledged by all parties, will give strength and confidence to his opinions and official acts.

His opinion on the incidental and constructive powers of the Federal government coming through the War Dept., will have the happiest effect.

It was the influence of this dept. that enabled Mr Calhoun to rally the war fever and war phrensy to the scheme of natural magnificence, that enabled him to command the whole energies of the nation to a preparation for war after the war was over and thus beguiled republicans from republican duties.

I understood that Governor Floyd wrote to a certain gentleman in E. Tenn., urging him and the Clay people to drop Mr Clay and take up Mr. Calhoun. I did not hear the effect of the letter. A highly respectable gentleman of Charleston (Mr. H. W. Conner) wrote me a few weeks since that the nullifiers had determined to run Mr Calhoun for the Pres'y.[1] He thinks it would be a hard battle in S C, but believes that the victory would be awarded to Tennessee's chief.

The union of the American system and nullification, if Mr Calhoun be a nullifier, will almost be a demonstration of the old maxim that two extremes very nearly approach each other. This will certainly require a yankee patent to make them stick, unless it be that two absurdities have an affinity for each other.

Unless usurpation be put down by the weight & influence of your administration, we may bid farewell to the lawful and peaceful action of the govt. Hence it becomes indispensible to have all the influence that can be arrayed ready for action. I received a letter a few days since from

our friend Maj. (Jesse) Egnew of New Orleans, in which he writes that Mr Clay spent the winter in the City & that he was not invited to eat or speak.[2] The *correspondence* troubled the Clay men but at last they said, Old Hickory before Calhoun.

I would open emigration to the Arkansas next fall for the Cherokees. They will not treat yet—Their subject will go and thus drain the nation.

Your friend,

R. G. Dunlap.

Printed, *The American Historical Magazine* 9 (January 1904): 83–85 (mAJs; 18-0138). Dunlap (1796–1841) was a Knoxville lawyer and state legislator. AJ replied on July 18 (below).

1. Henry Workman Conner (1797–1861) was a Charleston businessman.

2. Jesse Wallace Egnew (c1792–1832), a lawyer, had been a Maury County., Tenn., state legislator before moving to New Orleans. Henry Clay had sojourned in New Orleans from January to March.

From Samuel Delucenna Ingham

New Hope June 30th 1831.

Sir

I had the honor to receive by way of Doylestown your letter of the 23rd Inst with its enclosures viz copies of a circular letter from you to the acting Secretary of war Treasurer of the U.S. Register and Second Auditor of the Treasury and of their respective answers, The copy of your circular being in print, the others I had also seen in the newspapers some days before your letter reached me. In your letter to me above referred to, you speak of my having charged several officers of the Govt with a conspiracy and state that they have denied the charges preferred against them by me. I must be permitted to say that I have not charged those officers with any specific offence in the form suggested by you. I have stated that the late Secretary of war and acting Secretary of war were lying in wait for the purpose of making an assault upon me on my way to the office as I belived with an intent to assassinate. I also stated that a grocery store between my lodgings and the office and the rooms of the Treasurer & register were alternately occupied by them as places of rendezvous while so employed I further stated that the Treasurer Register and Second Auditor were in their company. I also stated that the principal persons thus engaged viz Eaton and Randolph with a recruited force threatened an assault on the dwelling I resided in, the same night until a late hour, and I now state that this threatening was continued until a late hour on the following night. The officers who have denied the charge as framed by you admit having been in company with Mr Eaton during the time referred to but they deny having been in his company the whole time this was never intended to have been alledged by me. The admissions equivocations and palpable

reservations in their letters are abundant proof of all the material facts alledged by me so far as they are concerned, but if any doubt remains it should be observed that my letter of the 21st was addressed to you especially as chief magistrate of the District of Columbia in which capacity your power must be ample to direct the proper officer of the Govt to institute a legal investigation of this transaction before a tribunal having power to examine and compel the attendance of witnesses. Whenever this shall be done I will without delay return to the seat of Govt and render all the aid in my power to such officer in the discharge of his duty It must however be distinctly understood that the investigation shall begin with the principals, and before I furnish a list of the witnesses that an assurance of protection shall be given to those who hold offices that they shall suffer no injury in consequence of giving testimony This has become necessary by reason of the declaration of Mr Evans the brother in law of Mr Eaton that the "President would turn every clerk out of office who took my part in this business" and of other facts which have since come to my knowledge. Altho I do not assume that this declaration was authorised by you yet it is indispensible to justice that no apprehension of this nature should rest on the minds of the witnesses[.][1] I have the honor to be very respectfully your obt St

S D Ingham

LS, DLC (39). Philadelphia *American Sentinel*, July 8, 1831; *Niles*, July 16. Nicholas Trist replied for AJ on July 7 (below).

1. French Strother Evans (1801–1887) was a Methodist minister and clerk in the Register of the Treasury's office. He had married Margaret Eaton's sister Georgiana Clinton O'Neale in 1829. In a speech to the assemblage welcoming him home on June 25, Ingham had related his version of the events of Monday, June 20, and justified his claim of an assassination plot. He charged that Evans had "declared publicly in the hearing of a number of persons, that if he 'were in Mr. Eaton's place, he would assassinate me, and the President would turn every clerk out of office who took my part in this business.'" The *US Telegraph* published Ingham's speech on July 1, and on July 4 the *Globe* printed Evans's denial, penned July 2. Evans declared Ingham's account "*entirely untrue*": he had "had no agency or concern in the affair" whatever. He had said afterward "that I thought Mr. Eaton was right in vindicating the character of his wife, and if I were present and Mr. Ingham's Clerks should interfere, I should feel it my duty to take part with Mr. Eaton; *but this was on Tuesday, after the affair of Monday had closed*."

From Edward Livingston

Washington 30. June 1831

Dear General

I have recd. Despatches from Mr McLane of the 21st. May at which time he had not received his permission to return. From his statement of european affairs which is very full & able he thinks a ~~Europe~~ continental war probable but that England will remain neutral. Your favorite Poles

are in the same state that our last advices left them; vague reports of another victory over Diebitch which heaven grant may be confirmed—but nothing certain[1]

I have also a Despatch from Mr Clay at St Petersburgh Dated 18. April containing his accounts and nothing else of note. Unless a request made by direction of Mr Randolph to Count Nesselrode to know whether that Govt. was disposed to proceed with the negociation may be deemed such. To this no direct answer was given & Mr. Clay thinks they are too much occupied at home to think of making treaties.[2]

The enclosed letter was sent to me by Mr Pope. Nothing of any kind from France.

I am glad to hear from Major Lewis that your excursion has agreed with you—pray give the air and water fair play and do not return while they operate favorably on your Constitution[.] With the greatest respect Your Friend & Hbl Sr

Edw Livingston

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr. Livingstons letter 1831—Mr McLane &c A. J

ALS, DLC (39).

1. Louis McLane's May 21 dispatch reached the State Department on June 30 (DNA-RG 59, M30-33). He enclosed London papers reporting that Russian forces in Poland under Hans Karl von Diebitsch (1785–1831) were in full retreat.

2. John Randolph Clay's April 18 dispatch reported an April 11 interview with Nesselrode at which Clay delivered John Randolph's promise, sent from London on January 15, to return to St. Petersburg if Russia was ready to enter a negotiation. Nesselrode gave him no answer (DNA-RG 59, M35-12; *HRExdoc* 111, 33d Cong., 1st sess., pp. 48–49, 53, Serial 726).

July

From John Henry Eaton

1. July. 1831

Dr Genl

I had thought I should see you by the Boat to day; but an anxiety to get away from this impure & infected atmosphere, has induced me to stay, arrange my affairs & be off from it early as possible. Lie follows lie in such quick & rapid succession, that it is folly to endeavor to oppose them. When a member of the Cabinet can, & does lie so horribly as Mr Ingham, what is to be expected from his subalterns? It is too bad!! I send you his speech, which does not contain one word of truth; & yet what can I do, with such a blackguard? He claims exemption from rules which govern gentlemen. He claims to say what he chooses, no matter whether true or false & denies all accountability, and flees from danger when it theatnens. No man can punish him except he render himself as degraded as he is I must be off—bear the violence of the present moment which almost deranges me; & when the present excitement shall be worn down make an appeal to the good & sober sense of the community, that such wretches, as Ingham Green & Co, may be put down at their proper places—

Even Jno Overton jr is attacked. And why? The speech of Ingham shews why. To assail you; for he takes occasion to say that he is the relation of Judge Overton, who is staying with you.[1] Now Mr Ingham knew that judge O left Washington on Friday, a day before our correspondence began. What a miserable fellow he is? How debased, & how mean. He will still insist that there was a conspiracy against his life; & clearly shews that all the armed force was with him.

I hope you will dismiss Ingham & his meaness from yr thoughts; & speak not of him at all. I am now out of the way of these gentlemen. They cannot wrong or injure me, more than they have done. I only desire that thro' no feeling, or expression on yr part, you permit them to be able to do injury to you; for that is there object & their purpose. I pray you therefore for political considerations, that you pay no attention to Mr Ingham but leave him to wallow in his own mire any remarks or attention from you, can only serve to aid & give him consequence

I will abide here, until you return; & be ready then to depart[.] truly yr friend

J. H Eaton

My kind regards to judge Overton who, I gladly learn is improving.

ALS, DLC (73).

1. In Ingham's June 25 speech at his Bucks County homecoming celebration, published by the *Telegraph* on July 1, he named as one of the armed men who had stalked his house on the nights of June 20 and 21 "a Mr. Overton, the latter a clerk in Major Lewis' office, and near relative of Judge Overton, of Tennessee, who was then on a visit to the President." John Waller Overton (1789–1853), a nephew of John Overton, was a clerk in the second auditor's office. On July 2 the *Globe* published his denial of Ingham's charge, along with a statement that John Overton had left Washington for Old Point Comfort on Friday, June 17.

From William Berkeley Lewis

Washington 1 July 1831.

D. Genl.

Yours of the 28th. Ultimo was recd. yesterday by the Steam Boat Potomac. You complain of not haing recd. either letters or papers, up to that time, since your arrival there. I was rather negligent in not writing you on last Sunday, which would have reached you by the Tuesdays boat, but as I stated to you in my letter of Monday, I was so busily engaged in looking over your old letters & papers, that I had not time. I have written every day since Monday, excepting yesterday; and I informed you in my letter of Monday,[1] if my recollection serves me correctly, that I had put into Mr. Kendalls hands all the letters I could find having any bearing upon the Calhoun affair, and I have no doubt but he is giving them his particular attention. I think it probable, however, that he has devoted the most of his time this week to the other affair of which you speak in your letter.

Herewith I send you several packages of letters and news papers. Some of the letters are from Nashville, one endorsed in the hand writing of Col. R. Butler, and one from the Gov. of Georgia, which latter I have thought you would probably have more time to read and reflect on at the Rip Raps than here.[2] Major Barry has left with me several packages for Judge Overton which I doubt not contains all the information, of any importance, he has. Mr. Livingston and Gov. Woodbury are both in good health, and are giving great satisfaction in their respective Departments; so also are the acting Secretaries of the Treasury and War Departments.[3] Your friends here are all in good health; and Kendall is engaged in moving to a house he recently has taken, not far from the State Department.

You will receive by the Boat to day the American Sentinel which contains, I am told for I have not seen it, the substance of Inghams dinner

speech on his return to Bucks; no doubt revised and corrected by himself. In this it is said he introduces Major Barry, and intimates that he had a principal agency in bringing about the State of things which existed at the time of his departure. But the leading object, of his speech, I am told, is to connect you with the transaction. However, Jones will, I presume send you the paper as I directed him last sunday to put up, at the Post Office, all the leading Journals sent to you.[4]

Since writing the above Mr. Livingston has called at my office, and says altho' he wrote to you yesterday he will write again by the Steam boat, to day. I advised him by all means to do so, as in all probability a letter to day would reach you before those sent by the mail of yesterday. He recd. a letter yesterday from MLane, but he had not, at its date, recd. yours offering him the Treasury Department. Nothing further, since you left here, has been heard from Mr. Rives. Mr. Taney has not yet arrived, nor have I understood when he will—probably not until about the time of your return.

I have this moment recd. a letter from our friend Col. Hamilton. That you may learn from himself what he desires; and see what he thinks with regard to other matters, I herewith enclose it. It is of course intended for your eye only—you will therefore, after reading it, destroy, or return it to me.[5]

I have not recd. a letter from Mary, since you left us. She is very *lazy*, but I understand she is in good health.[6]

Please give my very best respects to Messrs. Trist and Earle, and, if acceptable, you may also present me to Mr. Balch; & accept for yourself my best wish for your health and happiness.

W B Lewis

[Envelope endorsed by AJ:] private Jas. A. Hamilton 1831 Letter to be returned or burnd

ALS, DLC (39).

1. June 27, above.

2. These were letters above from Robert Butler, June 9, and George R. Gilmer, June 20.

3. The acting secretaries were respectively Asbury Dickins, appointed June 21, and Philip G. Randolph, appointed June 18.

4. The Philadelphia *American Sentinel* printed Ingham's June 25 speech on June 30. In it, justifying his demand to AJ for an official investigation, Ingham said that Barry "had expressed himself in terms of the greatest bitterness towards me." That, along with French S. Evans's threats and "other facts of which I was very credibly informed, satisfied me that a state of feeling existed among those who sympathized with Mr. Eaton, which was not only deeply discreditable to the government, but threatened much individual injury to some very worthy men." William Jones (1790–1867) was the Washington postmaster.

5. James A. Hamilton had written Lewis on June 28. He urged AJ to visit the North to cement his popularity there and thus fortify against the risk of a three-way presidential race against Calhoun and Clay being thrown into the House of Representatives. He recommended Lewis Cass over William Drayton or Richard M. Johnson for secretary of war, and

advised privately ascertaining the chosen person's willingness to serve before offering the appointment, to avoid the "bad appearance" of another public refusal (DLC-39).

6. Hamilton's letter gave news of Mary Ann Lewis, who was in New York and contemplating a trip to France.

From Edward Livingston

July 1t. 1831

Dear Genl.

I write merely to say that we are still without further advice from France, and that as to Domestic intelligence the papers which Major Lewis sends you will give you full information. Lest however he may have neglected to send you Mr. Inghams explanatory speech I enclose it. you will find that he enlarges the number of the accused, but disclaims all personal knowledge of their guilt.

Mrs. Livingston in a letter I have just received repeats her hopes that you will pay a visit to your Northern and Eastern friends and take our Cottage in your way.

I beg my remembrance to the gentlemen who accompany you. am most respectfully My Dear Genl Your Friend & Hble Ser

Edw Livingston

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr Livingston note—Mrs. L.' complements & wishes

ALS, NjP (18-0142). Livingston's wife was Louise D'Avezac Moreau de Lassy Livingston (c1781–1860).

To Andrew Jackson Jr.

Rip Raps, July 3rd. 1831—

My Dr Son

Having repaired hither with my old & valued friend judge Overton for a little relaxation from the turmoil & bustle of the city, & for his, as well as my own health, I reeceived your letter of the 15th. ultimo last evening announcing your safe arrival at home, in good health, & finding my family well, & my farm in good condition, & crop promising. Not having heard from you, only yr note of the 8th. june on board the steam boat at Cincinnati, I was growing uneasy to hear from you, least some accident might have befallen you—your letter of the 15th. has relieved my anxiety, & I shall await your letter of detail with some ~~anxiety~~ patience I have written you several letters which you will find, either at the Fountain of or at Nashville, in one of which I gave you some account of the shameful procedings of Ingham & his disgraceful flight from the city alarming the people all the way to Baltimore, of conspiracy to assasinate him, guarded,

as the testimony states, by seven men Col Towson at the head, three men of Bukram would have alarmed them to death.[1] Mr Ingham has made a speech at a dinner given to him on his return home, that will be a lasting monument of his disgrace.

your Cousin Andrew left me on the 11th. of june taking Govr. Branch in his way, I suppose he has reached home before this. Col Earle is with me & in good health, and let Mrs. judge overton know that the judge has quite recovered, & I trust will return to her in much improved health

I wish you to attend to the memorandom I gave you, and as soon as you do this, visit your sister and Genl Coffee, to return to me, as soon as you can. I want your aid much. It is now time to settle yourself and turn your mind to business. Major A. J. Donelson did not tell me whether he would return or not—he promised to write me often, but since he left me, I have recd. no letter from him.

I wish you to examine Capt Moselys land, strickly, agreable to the memorandom—run round it, and pass thro the woodland, all east of the dry branch I think poor, & broken, & not worth more than five dollars pr acre—still I may be mistaken. I have no desire myself to purchase, but as Capt Mosely is in distress, if I purchase, I wish to give a fair price, as much as it is now worth. On the subject of Dearings note, I can say nothing, as it has entirely escaped my memory. I wrote Steel some time ago, & inclosed him Dearings letter to me, I have not wrote Mr. Dearing on the subject. You can say to Mr Steel, if Mr Dearing will dismiss his appeal & pay the costs he may forgive him the debt. Mr Steel having commenced this suit by warrent, without my instructions, must bear the result himself, as I have had no agency in bringing the suit, nor will I, except the indulgence herein expressd, if Mr Dearing dismisses the appeal & pays the costs, to forgive the debt.

As early as you can examine Capt Moselys land write me; for if you conclude the purchase, I must prepare to meet the payment.

Write me often, & when you will arrive at washington, present me kindly to your aunt Mary, & all her family, to your cousin Andrew Emily and the children & Mary Easton, & all the connection—I have written a long letter to day to Mr McLamore—be sure to Call & see Mrs. judge Overton, & if you can Mr Randal Mc.Gavock & your Cousin Lemuel to whom present me affectionately & to both their families.[2] See all my neighbours and present my best regard to them—be sure to write me what condition the garden is in, what attention, if any, is paid to the tomb of your dear mother—how Mr Morrison progresses with the addition & repair of my House, & fully of all my concerns, and finally, whether my cotton has been yet sold, & at what price

commending you to the protecting care of our blessed Saviour, and my prayers for your good health and speedy return to me, I am your affectionate father. Col Earle sends his love to you.

Andrew Jackson

P.S. in your last you promised me a full account of your journey & its incidents, but in your ~~last~~ present you are silent on the subject. Miss Mary Ann Lewis is going to France this fall with Col Hamilton. If you have not sent her earrings, you had best forward them by a safe hand unless you can be here in all the month of august next. have you got the neclaces for the little Rachels

Say to A. J. Hutchings I have recd. his letter & will after I return to Washington answer it. I will be in Washington on Thursday next give my love to him.

ALS fragments, PPRF and DLC (18-0147; 40).

1. The Fountain of Health was a mineral spa and post office near the Hermitage. In Act 2, Scene 2 of Shakespeare's *Henry IV, Part 1*, Falstaff and his fellow thieves abandon their booty and flee in fright when accosted by two companions disguised in buckram suits. To hide his cowardice, Falstaff in later relating the incident inflates their number to four, seven, nine, and finally eleven.

2. "Aunt Mary" was probably Emily Donelson's mother, Mary Purnell Donelson. Lemuel Donelson (1789–1832) was her son and Andrew Jr.'s first cousin. Randal McGavock (1768–1843) was a former mayor of Nashville.

From David Burford

Dixons Springs Tennessee
July 3rd. 1831—

Dear General

Permit your old friend and acquaintance to address you frankly and freely as relates to matters and things, persons and opinions in this section of the country: my object is not only to communicate to you freely but should like to hear from you in return in order that I may be the better satisfyed wheather or not my conclusions are in accordance with yours.

This letter as you will see will treat of opinions said to be expressed by your former personal and political friends, and as I shall not write a woord but what I consider strictly true, still it is intended for your own private use, unless it should be actually nessesary to make a differant use of it, if so, you are at liberty to do so.

First I will say that your former friend Genl. Desha has for twelve months back spoke of the want of harmony in your cabinet, said that it was generally understood at Washington, that Mr Van Buren has your unlimited confidence, and indeed that his wishes prevailed with you: that Ingham & Branch seldom if ever attended, or was requested to attend the cabinet meetings—and since the dissolution of the cabinet, the Genl. seem's to think that Mr V. B. had formed a conspiracy to ruin Mr Calhoun and that no doubt you was favourable to Mr V. B.s pretention's as your successor; and all this and much moore has been since spoken of by many

others, particularly about Gallatin; And since the Teligraph has come out so strong against Mr V. B. and I think not less strong against you and in favour of Mr Calhoun his paper is spoken of in much higher terms—how men who pretend to call themselves your friend's can approve the course of the Editor of the Teligraph latterly I am at a loss to understand.

It is also said that Genl. Daniel S. Donelson has stated you desired him, Donselon, to support the election of Mr Burton in preferance to Genl. Hall; even suppose that to be true, how do you account for Donelsons speaking of it? can he be your friend? has the dismissall of his farther-in-law Branch changed his feelings towards you, and would he now be willing to injure you for the purporse of sustaining Mr Branch? this I give not as a general rumor, but I have no doubt that it has reached the Ears of Genl. Hall, and must have been intended to produce a coolness towards you in the breast of Gen. Hall, but the intended effect has not, in my opinion been produced; I have breafly apprised you of the course which some of your late friends are said be pursuing, indeed *I know* a part of it to be true and the whole of it has come to my knowledge in such a way as to satisfy my mind of its truth.

And while writing Genl. permit me to speak freely and honestly, and in doing so must say, that the circumstance of you writing the letter to Adam Huntsman about which there has been some publications, has produced some regreat amoungst your friends and amoungst that number is myself, not that I blame you for casting off the Teligraph but for writing to such a man as Huntsman, whom it is said you have been frequently heard to abuse, and I have no doubt he deserved all he ever got from you or any other person.[1]

I have already written you moore than you will purhaps think deserves reading, or than is worth your time to purruse, but as I have detained you thus long let me give you my opinion's which has alone been formed from what I have seen in the differant newspapers, upon the subject of the disagreement between your self and Mr Calhoun, and the dissolution of the cabinet &c.

As to Mr Calhoun I know that he so managed or his friends for him as to induce your friends to beleive that he was your friend in the cabinet council which was said to be conveaned under the Administration of Mr Monroe on the subject of the Seminole & florada campaign, and that Mr Crawford was your violent enemy upon that occasion and throughout the whole of that investigation; now let me ask who was benefited by these impressions made upon the minds of your friends throughout the U. States, one favourable to Mr Calhoun and the other adverse to Mr Crawford? the result has proven; Mr Calhoun has been made the second officer in the Goverment, by the people and principally by your friends, while Mr Crawford is, comparativly speakg, as a private citizen. whose interest was it to make this impression on the publick mind? why surely it was Mr Calhoun's and the result shews that him, or his friends, did not

count without their host; if Mr Calhoun had no agency in making this impression upon the publick mind surely he has had the best friends in the world. But some say that Mr Crawford should not have communicated, even at this late day, the transactions of the cabinet, but let any one make the enquiry of themselves if they had been situated as Mr Crawford was, had lost his weight and influence, in some measure in society, and had felt the powerfull weight of opposition which his supposed course had brought down upon him, while Mr Calhoun had actually, to his knowledge, pursued the course which had been attributed to him, while that fact had not been known, I ask, if, under all these circumstances there is one in society who had any regard for their own feelings or standing who would not have given to the publick their course? but this should always be bourn in mind, that the part which each member of the cabinet took on that occasion was shortly after communicated to the publick in such a maner at least as to make the desired impression's, and I again repeat it, who so likely to have done it as Mr Calhoun or his friends, for he alone was to be benifited by it. And it seems to me that Mr Calhoun's publication of his book is pretty much of the same peace: why publish it and then his tool, the Teligraph, immediatly come out against the President, sensuring his course, and, at the same time approving that of Mr Calhoun's— was it not intended as a feeler, to see wheather Mr Calhoun should be run against you or not, and when we take in connection the amendment proposed to the constitution of the U.S. by Mr Mc.Duffy, the personal and political friend of Calhoun's on the subject of the Presidential election, by which proposed amendment the present incumbent would have been disqualefyed, having "*served one term*" without going farther so as to take the election out of congress, at any events, as was desired by the Jackson party and recommended by him in his messages to congress.[2] I say taking these circumstances into consideration, first the attempt on the part of Mr Calhoun's friends to disqualefy you, by the proposed amendment from being eligable, and when that failed the publication of his book: these and other circumstances taken together and in connection has reather inclined my mind to the opinion that Mr Calhoun is an ambitious man, and that he may even be as great an intreger as Mr Calhoun's friends would have us beleive Mr Van Buren to be. And purhaps there is where Gen. Desha imbibed his feelings of late towards you, as I am told him and Mr Calhoun boarded at the same house.

I will now conclude writing what I fear you do not wish to hear, and if so, can oly say that this letter was dictated by the kindest and best of feelings for you; but before I quit let me say that I am much pleased with the formation of your new cabinet, and I think that the people are generally much pleased ~~with your selection of your cabinet officers~~ also. With great respect your friend

D. Burford

ALS, DLC (39). Burford (1791–1864) was a Tennessee state senator from Smith County. AJ replied on July 28 (below).

1. This was AJ's December 1830 letter touting the *Globe*, which Huntsman had published in the *Globe* on June 15 (*Jackson Papers*, 8:682).

2. AJ's first annual message in December 1829 proposed amending the constitution to elect a president by direct popular vote instead of through the electoral college and House of Representatives, and also to limit the president to a single term of four or six years (Richardson, 2:447–48). The House referred the subject to a select committee chaired by George McDuffie, who on February 1, 1830, reported a plan for a complicated electoral scheme involving a two-stage popular vote by districts and a possible final decision by the House, with no mention of limiting the president's term. AJ's second annual message a year later reiterated both his recommendations (Richardson, 2:518–19), and on December 22, 1830, another select committee chaired by McDuffie reported a constitutional amendment to confine the president to a single term.

From Joshua Robb

Bellefontaine Logan County Ohio july 4th 1831

Dear Sir

For some time past I have had a great desire to write a letter of approbation to you, but feeling myself so far beneath you in Talant and virtuous acts, I have hitherto been discouriaged from making the atempt, but when I view the plainness of our Republican Government I think a plain obscure Farmer such as me, may in a humble and friendly maner aproach the Presidant of the United States, and in adressing you I am prompted by nothing but Cincere friendship, believeing that they many Patriotic and virtuous acts of your life flow from a Noble Heart, and from one who is under the direction of Almighty God who has brought you into the world as a Blesing to this Nation and it is my Cincere prayer that God may preserve you through all the tryals of this life (and they are not a few you meet) and Receive you in Heaven to be Blessed in the enjoyment of Himself For Ever. Dear Sir as an incouragement to you I now inform you your Administration is highly sattisfactory to the Honest Citizens of this place, and theire is no earthly good that I so much desire as your Reelection to the Presidancy, a reply from you would be a favour never to be forgoten[.] Dear Sir I am your cincere friend

Joshua Robb

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr Joshua Robb of ohio, friendly letter; asks a reply. The answer, the acknowledgement of his letter, & thanks for his kind wishes. That as to the elections he never interferes, leaving the people whose province it is to choose for themselves, freely, without any interference, or agency of mine. When they exercise this important right freely, act upon their own judgements their liberty will be perpetuated. A. J.

ALS, DLC (39). Robb (1806–1873) was a Logan County farmer.

Nicholas Philip Trist to Samuel Delucenna Ingham

Washington, July 7th. 1831.

Sir,

The President, on his return to-day from the Rip-Raps, has received your letter of the 30th ulto. In reply to your renewed call upon him "as Chief Magistrate of the District of Columbia," I am directed to inform you that he does not consider the fact of certain officers "having been in company with Majr. Eaton," during office-hours and in their offices, where it is their duty to be & where every individual has a right to go, as supporting the charge that those offices were used "as places of rendezvous" by a party lying in wait to assassinate you; nor as constituting "probable cause," to justify the subjection of citizens of fair character, all solemnly denying your imputations, to arraignment before a court of criminal jurisdiction: That if "a legal investigation of this transaction before a tribunal having power to examine & compel the attendance of witnesses" be, by you, deemed necessary, he assures you of adequate protection in the City of Washington, where you have the right, as prosecutor before the grand jury to present the supposed offenders, or to summon them before any magistrate of the District: Also, that "an assurance of protection shall be given to those who hold offices, that they shall suffer no injury in consequence of giving testimony"—an assurance, however, not to be construed as affording impunity for any misconduct which the investigation may unfold.

The President directs me to inform you, also, that should any persons connected with the Government be found implicated in having formed part of "a recruited force" to engage in hostilities of any kind within the precincts of the Departments, or elsewhere within the District of Columbia; or in having armed & associated together, to the disturbance & alarm of its peaceful citizens, he will feel it his duty, in addition to the penalties of the law, forthwith to dismiss the offenders from the public service. He directs me further, Sir, and in conclusion, to state that, from the enquiry he has made, your charges to that effect against the Acting Secretary of War and others do not appear to be founded in fact; and that he cannot but ascribe them to a reliance on false statements or vague surmises, or to the workings of an over-excited imagination. I am, Sir, very respectfully, Yr. Obt. Servt.

N. P. Trist

[Endorsed by Ingham:] I preserve this paper as one of the best illustrations of the consummate Hypocrisy which was the prominent trait of Gen Jacksons character. While he was writing these plausible promises of protection for the witnesses he was doing all he could to intimidate by the men he employed to sound the alarm, and the preparations thus made to forestall a scrutiny. His declarations and threats made in private

circles were spread and followed thro the whole city while he took care on paper to promise every thing that seemed to be fair I forbore the enquiry because I knew the truth could only be proved at the expense of the support of a number of most worthy men who were willing & had offered to risk their lives for me—S D I

ALS, PU-Ingham Papers (mAJs). ALS draft, DLC (39). Washington *Globe*, July 11, 1831; *Niles*, July 16. All the quoted phrases except "probable cause" were taken from Ingham's June 30 letter to AJ (above). Ingham replied to AJ on July 26 (below).

To Mary Ann Eastin

Washington July 8th. 1831

When I wrote you from the Rip Raps, in reply to your affectionate letter just then recd. I was as usual, my dear Mary, surrounded & interrupted by company. I have been prevented since my return hither, by a press of business, from presenting my thanks to you for your kind visit to the Hermitage & the tomb of my dear departed, but ever to be lamented wife. In that Tomb lies in silence, free from the turmoils of this wicked world, all that made life desirable to me, and I often wish, if it pleased the will of providence, that I was by her side, free from all the deception, and depravity of this wicked world; then my mind would not be coroded by the Treachery of false friends, or the slanders of professed ones. But my Dr. Mary I have diciplined my mind, to meet things as they are, & to be ready on all occasions to say "the Lords will be done. The late conduct of Mr Ingham has forced these thoughts upon me; you have seen them detailed. I had for some time past cause to suspect his friendship, and reason to doubt of his candor—his *cowardly flight* has disgraced him in his own State, and he is prostrate in the whole Union. Had he & Govr. Branch retired with that dignity of character which was expected from their high stations, how much it would have exalted them in the estimation of the world—as it is, they have both fallen, and it is now doubted, whether Govr Branch will not be beaten for congress.[1] I regret this, tho he has tried secretely to injure me. I had a strong friendship for him—but a jealousy of Mr Van Buren his best friend, & an infatuation about Eaton whose friend he aught to have been, but Treated cruelly led him into the wiles of Calhoun who led him astray, & produced the results that have taken place—but I will leave this disagreable subject & conclude by requesting to be kindly presented to all friends & remain yours affectionately

Andrew Jackson

P.S. You know my dear Mary, I always told you, the attack upon Eaton, was not to destroy him but to injure me. The facts prove this—for tho', he has resigned, they keep up the attack against him hoping to injure me The discarded Clerks & defaulters on the celebration of the 4th. here, for political effect, toasted some ladies. How mortifying to me & all friends to see our Dear Emilys name amonghst them for political effect.[2] These scenes are past they cannot be recalled, but these toasts produced a large meeting at George Town, and a dinner was offered Major Eaton by the respectable citizens of all parties, which he declined.[3] There has been much feeling here. The attempt to injure me has entirely failed. My good old Pennsylvania & Carolinas stick to old Hickory, & New Yor and Ohio is firm. I trust in my god, he has hitherto, & I trust will always shield me from the snares of the wicked. write me when you have leisure & inclination *[I shall always]* be happy to hear from you—*[has Andrew left home. A. J.]*

ALS, Mrs. Lucius E. Burch Sr. (18-0164). This letter was evidently completed and sent after its date, as AJ wrote AJ Jr. on July 9 (below) that he had not yet finished it.

1. In August, John Branch was elected unopposed to a North Carolina seat in Congress.

2. The toasts at a Clayite "National Republican Celebration" in Washington on July 4 included one by James Young to "Mrs. Donelson, Mrs. Calhoun, Mrs. Ingham and Mrs. Branch—the female phalanx that resisted the introduction of European court morals under General Jackson" (Washington *Daily National Journal*, July 8, 1831).

3. A large "Jackson Republican Meeting" was held on July 6 in Georgetown. On July 11, "a number of the citizens of Washington, without distinction of party," offered Eaton a public dinner, which he declined on July 12 (*Globe*, July 9 and 22, 1831).

To Edward Livingston

Private

July 8th 1831

The President with his respects to the Secretary of states, request that he cause a commission to be made out for Govr. Cass as Secretary of War. The President has seen Mr Siliman, and he thinks he will accept the appointment.[1] Therefore let his appointment be announced tomorrow & a letter addressed to him requesting his attendence at this place as early as he can.

AN, NjP-Livingston Papers (mAJs). Livingston wrote Cass of his appointment this same day (DNA-RG 59, M40-22). Cass's commission was made out August 1. He arrived in Washington on August 7 and received his commission on August 8.

1. Probably Cass's brother-in-law Wyllys Silliman (1777–1842), an Ohio lawyer, politician, and judge; or his son, Cass's nephew George Wyllys Silliman (c1807–1842), also a lawyer. Both later held appointments under AJ.

To Andrew Jackson Jr.

Washington july 9th. 1831—

My Dr. Son,

I had the pleasure this morning to receive your affectionate letter of the 24th. of last month, and about one hour after your draft for $2000 in favor of Capt P. Mosely, the consideration for the land Bot of him, was presented, honored, and paid, and the draft taken up by me. I wish you to instruct Mr Steel, as early in the fall, as his hands can be spared from his crop, to unite that part Bot. of Capt Mosely with the Winston farm, & cut a road into the mouth of Capt Moselys Lane—and close the one between the Winston Tract & land Bot. of Capt Mosely. The sooner this is done, & the lane closed the better, as now, the main public road is by Mr Wm. Sanders, which, I suppose, will be permanent.[1]

I thank you for the information you have given me, of my friends, family, stock, & farm, and will be much gratified to receive your promised letter in continuation of my instructions.

I returned day before yesterday from the Rip Raps; from the continued rains the Air was very humid, & I caught cold, & am troubled with a cough, but it is subsiding

Say to Mr Steel I have recd his letter returning Mr Dearings to me—that I have read his statement of the case, & as far as I have a recollection of the matter, believe his statement correct. I recollect that he brought the matter to my view when last at home but my mind was so employed by other, & more important matter, that it had escaped my recollection, until I received his statement. he must manage that case as he sees fit, having in view, that if Mr Dearing will dismiss his appeal, & pay all costs—that he may release him from the payment of the debt.

your cousin Andrew must be at home before this, he left me about three weeks ago. I recd. from him yesterday a letter of the 24th. ulto. dated at Governor Branches. he was to proceed home in the next stage & must have reached his dear little family before now. give my love to them all, & kiss the children for me. Present me kindly to Mary Easton say to her I recd. her letter at the Rip Raps, & answered it in part, intending to write her again so soon as I reached here, but I have been so engrossed with business that I have to omit it until more Leisure—give to her the ring or breast pin, I requested you in my memorandom. The mail is about closing & I must conclude, with my kind salutations to all friends & my prayers for your health and speedy return to me, and believe me your affectionate father

Andrew Jackson

P.S. Judge Overton Mr Earle & Major Lewis all send their respects to you—the judge is quite recruited—

ALS, DLC (39).

1. AJ wrote a $2,000 check this day to BUS cashier Richard Smith to cover AJ Jr.'s June 21 draft in favor of Moseley. William Saunders (c1776–1846) operated the nearby Fountain of Health spa.

From John Coffee

(Private)

Coxes Creek near Florence
9th. July 1831—

Dear Genl.

I am indebted to you for several letters since I wrote you, for which I offer you my thanks, for was it not for the information you kindly give me, I would be entirely ignorant of the passing events at Washington, for we caenot rely upon any thing scarcely which we see in the news papers. I see that my friend Eaton is acting himself, now that he is not shackled with office, this is what I expected of him, it is right, and just what every honest independant man, who will take the trouble to think for himself, will approve of. At suitable seasons I expect he will go the whole hog round—but he aught not to press it too fast, times and circumstances will offer when all will come on by accident as it were—but he should always be prepared. Duff deserves it well, but it wont doo now, they are so much in the habit of crying out War, Pestilence, & famine,[1] that they would turn their batteries against you, and although it has in reality, nothing to do with you, or you with the transaction, yet they would play it in that way, and many persons who dont understand the thing, and will not take the trouble to understand them, will fall into their wake, and believe, or pretend to believe, that you are concerned in the affair, which no doubt is not the fact—therefore perhaps better for E. to let Duff pass on for the present, and untill he feels more safe and secure, when a surprise will set harder on him that at present when he expects it—but there is a time coming when he deserves punishment from Eatons hands. I see that Mr. Ingham has followed in the footsteps of his great file leader, and cries out, *War, bloodshed, death* and *raw head & bloody bones*—and calls on the people to witness.[2] Mr. Ingham is now a private man the people has no more to do with him, than with any other person, yet they will use it in that way, and try to turn it against you if possible—therefore if possible to let things rest for the present, and until a more convenient season. I am glad to learn that Carrol will not offer for the senate, and that Grundy will not have his opposition, for both being friendly to you would produce a division in the ranks of your friends which would very disagreable at this time. I think that Grundy will continue to do well—we learn here that Judge White has accepted the Secty. of Warship—but have not seen it announced officially, I hope it is so—many persons have spoken of Eaton

to fill his place, if the East Tennesseans will unite in his support. I have not heard a word from there, it would certainly be a good thing for you, to get a friend so strong to fill the place of one of your strongest friends withdrawn for the Cabinet, for surely you will feel the loss of Messrs. Levingston & White in the senate let who will fill their places, I would be much gratified to see Eaton in Whites place, but it is too soon yet to propose such a thing.

I have been on the look out about the settlement of the Chickasaw Indians West. I correspond with their Agent Reynolds freely & frequently, he is a fine fellow, and seems to understand them and their wants better than they do themselves—they had a whole weeks counsel at his house (the Agency) early this summer. I did not go to it, believing it best to let them try their own recourses first, and when they fail, they will more chearfully call in aid. Reynolds shew me the memorial or a copy of it, which they sent to you asking your protection against the laws of the States, this would seem strange after what you said to them yourself at Franklin last summer, particularly with such men as George and Levy Colbert, who understands all those things as well as any other men whatever—they are trying to raise a simpathy for their situation.[3] Reynolds is now gone to Mobile for money to pay their annuity, when he comes home, he will advise me of a proper time, when I will visit them, and see if any thing can be done.

I have lately received the enclosed letter, from the principal Chiefs of the two eastern districts of the Choctaw Nation, informing that a mistake was made in transcribing the treaty made with them last summer, in the names of two of the persons to whom reservations were allowed—from their statement it would seem reasonable, that the names should be corrected, but how, or by whom I dont know. I have said to them, that if you and the secretary of War did not feel authorised to alter or correct, that I thought you would ask Congress to do it, but that they aught to address the facts to you, in their official characters as Chiefs of the nation—the letter will shew you the nature of the mistake.

On the receipt of your letter kindly offering me your Machine for hulling Cottonseed preparetory to making oil, I wrote to Mr. Steel enquiring of him if the machine could be transported in a waggon, from the Hermitage to this place—he sent me word verbally that he thought it could be put into a waggon, that the weight was not too great, but that it would be somewhat top heavey &c. I am determined to try it at all events, and if it cant come in a waggon I will bring it by water next winter after the waters rise. I have the best gearing to drive it, that could be made, at our factory on Sweet water creek, with a large water wheel, and a drum wheel all in compleat operation, with plenty of house room to contain the machine—so that I can make the necessary experiment without incurring any cost in preparing the power to drive it. And if I find a valuable business, I can arrange it at home or keep it there as may be most adviseable after trying it. My best impressions are, that if it succeeds well, I will continue to hull

the seed at sweet water, and then haul the kernal home to my mill here (only about three miles and a good road) and make them into oil—however this I can determine after making a trial, and if I succeed I will pay you the cost of the machine—we will not have seed to use or experiment with, untill we begin to Gin the present growing Crop; which will be nearly Cristmass, and by that time I will have all ready to make the trial.

our crops at present promise to be very good, they are not as early as usual at this season of the year, but they look very promising indeed, both corn and cotton is growing as fine, and fast as I ever saw them—wheat crops are light, but Rye and oats very fine—so that we have abundant reason to rejoice and feel thankful.

I believe I wrote you last spring that Col. Maunsel White of New Orleans had sold A. J. Hutchings crop of cotton raised last season for nine & three fourths cents, owing to its being down earlier than usual, and before the market was glutted. My own crop did not get down so soon, nor untill the market was full and the price fallen, the consequence was that it lay there in store untill about the last of May, when he sold it for ten cents, the price of the very best Missi. cotton at the time—but it was certainly the handsomest crop that ever was sent from this place.

Our family are all enjoying health, and all unite with me, in tendering our love to you—dear Genl. your friend—

Jno. Coffee

ALS, DLC (39).

1. In an 1828 campaign speech, Henry Clay had famously said he would rather see his country visited "with war, with pestilence, with famine, with any scourge other than military rule or a blind and heedless enthusiasm for mere military renown" (*Clay Papers*, 7:273).

2. "Rawhead & Bloody Bones" is a bogeyman character in British and American folktales. In a widely noticed dinner speech at Charleston, S.C., on May 19, George McDuffie had damned the protective tariff as an engine of insufferable oppression, championed nullification as its rightful remedy, and derided fears of disunion and civil war as "mere nursery stories of raw-head and bloody-bones, which even the women of our country laugh to scorn" (*Speech of the Hon. George McDuffie, at a Public Dinner Given to Him by the Citizens of Charleston, [S.C.] May 19, 1831*, p. 29).

3. The May 28 Chickasaw memorial is above. AJ's address to the Chickasaws, read to them by Eaton and Coffee at the opening of removal negotiations at Franklin, Tenn., on August 23, 1830, stated directly that he had "not the authority" to protect them from state laws and that they "must submit: there is no preventive—no alternative" other than removal (*Jackson Papers*, 8:495–98).

To Andrew Jackson Donelson

Washington july 10th. 1831—

Dear Andrew

I returned from the Rip Raps on the 7th. & your letter of the 24th. from Govr. Branches, was handed me on the 8th. by Mr Hardeman, Doctor Bradford having gone to Philadelphia with his uncle to endeavour

to raise him from his low & debilitated state, ~~which~~ his fate is considered doubtful.[1]

I regret that you were disappointed in the purchase of your negroes.

I have noted your remarks as it regards the disposition of Governor Branch towards me. I wish he may have acted candidly with you. I have seen a letter from a high source, from the District in which he lives, giving quite a different statement of his course; in which it is stated, that he is trying to injure me in every way he can, and has requested a statement of certain facts, to correct the mis-statements he Mr Branch has made—if the writer states facts as they are, he (Mr Branch) is acting the part of a base & unprincipled man, & his hypocracy to you, adds to his meaness. If the writer states facts, Govr. Branch is as vindictive, & unprincipled, as Ingham has shewn himself, who has, raised a lasting monument of his own disgrace by his dastardly, & disgraceful conduct—as a proof, I refer you to his letters, which he has written to me, but has had them published before they reached me—see tommorrows Globe.[2] Ingham has been so much frightened, that his senses has not surely returned, or he is one of the most unprincipled men & regardless of truth that I have ever had any intimacy with. J. C. Calhoun only excepted, who has been corresponding with some of my friends in Tennessee (confidential) some extracts have been furnished me. The papers in Pennsylvania are belabouring Ingham severely & on the 4 of july, at a public meeting, you will see, that the company refused to toast him, when presented by Mr Gowen[3]

You will see from the papers that the dismissed clerks, & officers, celebrated the 4th. here. Their blackguard toasts, are a true display of their character. The Honrd. Mrs. Calhoun, Mrs. Ingham, & Emily with a toast, which fully displays the combination which I at first suspected, & endeavoured to keep my family clear of, and long since had full evidence to convince my mind that Mr & Mrs. Calhoun were the grand wier workers behind the scene—your dear little Emily I fear before this matter ends, will be brought in bold relief before the nation. Such was the indignation of the people here, that a meeting was instantly got up in Georgetown (the citizens of Washington having had one before) and I am told that Genl Mason made one of the most eloquent speeches ever uttered in any deliberative body, in reply to their unjust & blacguard course in all this matter, and you may rest assured this conspiracy to destroy Eaton & his family, will recoil upon the heads of its projecters & all who are brought within its vortex, as aiding it.[4] There is much indignant feeling on this head, I assure you. How I laboured to prevent it—but it is past, and can only now be used as a buoy to shun the rocks in future—but you will find, as I have always knew, that it was an unfortunate course for my family, I knew the design was to injure me—and now that Govr. Branch should give the reasons that you say he does, without naming the Individuals that has obtain the assendency over me, is a course unworthy of a man, who has shared so much of the public confidence; it is following the example

of the that base man Calhoun, who is secretely saying that *Mrs. Eaton is the President*. I shall in due time give Calhoun his quietas, & shew his baseness naked to the world.

Present me kindly to emily & the sweet little ones, to Mrs. Donelson & all her family, including Mary Easten & all my connections & believe me your friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, DLC-Donelson Papers (18-0171).

1. Richard Henry Bradford (1770–1835), a physician, and William Hardeman were Navy Department clerks.

2. On July 11, the *Globe* accused Ingham of precipitously publishing his June 30 letter to AJ without awaiting a reply, and also of sending his accusing June 21 letter to be published before it even reached AJ, proving "from the beginning that this *private* correspondence" was intended as a public attack on AJ. A draft of the *Globe* editorial's opening passage in Francis P. Blair's handwriting is in AJ's papers (DLC-39; 18-0175).

3. At a July 4 celebration in Philadelphia of "the democratic friends of General Andrew Jackson," merchant James Gowen (1790–1873) offered a volunteer toast to Ingham: "In office capable, faithful, and unremitting: in principle, frank, inflexible, and uncompromising" (Philadelphia *American Sentinel*, July 8, 1831). A writer in the July 21 *Globe* called Gowen an "*officious* gentleman" intent on disrupting the proceedings, and said that his toast was "rejected by the company."

4. At the "Jackson Republican Meeting" in Georgetown on July 6, planter and businessman John Mason (1766–1849) gave a speech received with "enthusiastic cheering." He concluded by offering a resolution, which was adopted unanimously, condemning attempts "to impress a belief abroad, that the President of the United States, has interfered with, and endeavored to control, at the seat of Government, 'the private intercourse of society'" (*Globe*, July 9, 1831).

From Heckaton et al.

Arkansas July 10th 1831

Our Great Father—

Your Red Children, The Chiefs, head men, and Warriors, of the Quapaw tribe, most humbly beg leave to inform you, That last Winter our head Chief Hec.ka.too. went to see you, at the beloved White house, to make known to you, our poor destitute situation, and to get the man (Mr. Barraque) who once conducted us to the Cadoe Country, for our Agent.[1] he is honest, he has our confidence, he would do you, and us Justice, without expense to the Government, but you were told he was a merchant, and you could not employ him for us, he is a merchant for Red and white, we wish to be considered Citizens, to deal with whom we please, and the merchants to have the liberty of trading with us, and us and our people to be Obedient to the laws of our Great father.

Father, the Agent you have sent to us, we dont like, we dont know him, he is not the man of our Choice, who will do us Justice. Our chief, would not have consented, to have had him, but was persuaded, (with

the assistance of Spirits) by Mr. Sevier, to have Colo. Rector. He has come twice to see us, to make appologys to us for not paying to us, our annuity money, which he has got, but tells us he cannot pay us, untill he receives instructions from the Great War Chief.[2] Father we are in great want, and hope you will order us our money, it would now be of great service to us, and our poor families, when corn is so hard to be got, and we have no money to buy it, for our suffering families. Colo. Rector has not given us, the man we wanted for our interpreter, but has employed one who is not honest, whose tongue is forked, and one who will answer Mr. Rector's purpose.[3] Father, if the man of our choice cannot be given to us for our Agent, because he is a merchant, we hope our father will grant to us for our Agent, the man whom we will recommend, and one who stands next to Mr. Barraque, in our estimation, and one who can be recommended to our father by several of our white Brothers, who compose your great Council.

Father, during the life of Govr. Izard we let remain in his hands, of our annuity, $1500. for the purpose of buying lands, as our white Brothers do. At his death, this money came into the hands of his Administrators Colo. Ashley &c. and we cannot get it.[4] Father, we ask your friendly interference in this matter, and see your poor Children done Justice. Father, the last annuity that was sent for us, to the Agent for the Cadoes, we have never recd. but $600. as that Agent insisted on Hec.ka.too. to go with him, to Natchitoces, ~~with him~~ and there take goods out of a *Certain* store for the remainder of the $2000. which our chief refused to do.[5] All this we have told to Mr. Rector, but he has made no movements, towards seeing us Justice done, nor is it probable, he ever will do any thing about our money which is in the hands of Govr. Izards administrator, (Ashley) as Rector, and Ashley, are too great Bob.a.shee.lees. for us to expect Justice from him.[6] Father when our Chief Hec.ka.too. was at the beloved white house last winter, he, (from the persuasion of Mr. Sevier,) and not knowing rightly what he was doing, appropriates, $900. yarly out of our small annuity to Colo. Johnsons school, which will leave us but $1100. yearly, and in two more years, our annuity will be but $1000. leaving us then the very small sum of $100. yearly.[7] Father we have sent but four of our children, to the Kentucky school, our wish is, that for this present year, you allow to Colo. Johnson, what is right for the four boys, and after that, the appropriation which has been made by Hec.ka.too. to cease. We have had twelve of our Children taught here, by a good teacher for $200. a year, besides we are not able to spare so large a sum out of our small annuity.

Father, when our Chief, returned from the beloved white house, and told us, your kindness to him, and the good talks you gave to him for ~~his~~ your poor red Children, the Quapaws, It made our hearts feel glad. And have called down the blessings of the Great Spirit upon the head of our Beloved Great father, the President of the twenty four great Council fires.

Father, when our head Chief Hec.ka.too. went to see you, he took with him (in writing) a true statement of our Grievance the great fraud commit-

ted on us by the treaty, when we sold you Our country which was done by false interpretation, and cheated you, and us, out of a large Donation, to a man (Mr. Scull) to whom we never owed one hundred Dollars.[8] Our Chief was prevailed upon when at Washington, (by Mr. Sevier) not to hand you this paper but to burn it. A few days ago Mr. Rector came to see us and when our Chief, pressed him for our money, he threatened, to drive us away, to the Red River Country.

Father—we will take the liberty of troubling you, shortly, with, a true statement of the fraud, above alluded to, and has no doubt, but that our fathers Paternal and fostering care of his Red Children, (generally) will be extended to his poor and Un-offending red Children the Quapaws.

Hec.ka.too. Principal Chief,	his mark	X
Saracen, Chief	his mark	X
Tonunginka, Chief,	his mark	X
Kahikettida Chief,	his mark	X
Tigewalkatta	his mark	X

[Forty additional signatures follow.]

I Certify, that the above, is a true interpretation as delivered by the Chiefs, and signed in my presence

Bernard Bonne
Late United States interpreter

DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-530). Heckaton (d. 1842) was the principal chief of the Quapaws, and Sarasen, or Sarasin (c1735–1832), was another of their four head chiefs. In an 1824 treaty, the Quapaws had agreed to cede their lands on the Arkansas River in Arkansas Territory and remove south to the Red River, where they would combine with the Caddos. The Quapaws accordingly emigrated from Arkansas in 1826; but near-starvation from repeated flooding of their fields and difficulties with the Caddos and their agent prompted nearly all to return between 1827 and 1830. Arkansas Territory governor George Izard (1776–1828) and his Jackson-appointed successor John Pope (1770–1845) gave them succor and urged allowing them to remain. A delegation led by Heckaton went to Washington and petitioned the government in December 1830. On January 4, 1831, Eaton told them that AJ was "not at liberty to give you a Country to live on," but that he would bring their needs before Congress and consider their preferences for a subagent and interpreter (DNA-RG 75, M21-7).

Secretary of War Cass replied to this address for AJ on August 11. He defended subagent Wharton Rector and directed the Quapaws to address all future communications to the government through him. Indian superintendent Samuel S. Hamilton enclosed Cass's reply to Rector the same day, with instructions to hand it to the Quapaws and attend to their grievances (DNA-RG 75, M21-7). In 1833 the Quapaws, still in Arkansas, signed another treaty under which they removed to present northeast Oklahoma.

1. French-born Antoine Barraque (1773–1858) as acting subagent had conducted the Quapaws from Arkansas to Red River in 1826.

2. Wharton Rector (c1800–1842), a former Army lieutenant, was nominated by AJ in 1830 to be Shawnee and Delaware agent but rejected by the Senate. He was appointed Quapaw subagent on March 11, 1831. On June 10, Rector wrote Indian superintendent Samuel S. Hamilton that territorial delegate Ambrose H. Sevier had received the Quapaw

annuity and offered it to him to pay out, but that he was reluctant to take custody of it before executing his bond as subagent, which had not arrived. Hamilton sent him the bond and instructions for executing it on July 12. On October 15, the Quapaw chiefs wrote the War Department repeating their complaints, among them that Rector had still not paid the annuity and had answered their requests for it with threats. They again appealed for his removal. Meanwhile, on August 23 Rector wrote resigning his subagency and accepting a new appointment as special removal agent to the Choctaws. On October 15, Richard M. Hannum was appointed subagent to replace him (DNA-RG 75, M21-7; DNA-RG 75, M234-530).

3. John W. Edwards was the U.S. interpreter. The Quapaws wanted Bernard Bone, or Bonne, of a Quapaw-related family.

4. Chester Ashley (1790–1848) was an Arkansas politician and later U.S. senator. Beginning in 1827, the Quapaws had designated $500 out of their annual $2,000 annuity to go to Izard for the benefit of the Arkansas returnees. In September 1830, Governor Pope wrote the War Department seconding the Quapaws' complaint that Izard's executors were refusing to relinquish three uncashed $500 annuity checks found in his papers after his death (*TPUS*, 21:271).

5. Red River Indian agent Jehiel Brooks had written Eaton on December 29, 1830, vehemently denying Quapaw complaints of mishandling their annuity and branding Bernard Bonne "a lyar and mischief maker" (*TPUS*, 21:304–5).

6. A bobbasheely is a close friend.

7. The Choctaw Academy in Kentucky educated Indian youths. It was established by Richard M. Johnson and funded in part by the War Department. The 1824 removal treaty had added $1,000 for eleven years to the Quapaws' previous annuity of $1,000. They may have expected the second annuity to be cancelled because of their return to Arkansas, as the War Department told Governor Pope in January 1832 it would be (*TPUS*, 21:447).

8. The 1824 treaty reserved two sections of ceded land for Arkansas Territory treasurer James Scull (1782–1846), "in consideration of a debt of seven thousand five hundred dollars, due to him from the Quapaw Nation, and recognized in open Council" (*Indian Treaties*, 2:210).

To Andrew Jackson Donelson

Washington july 11th. 1831—

Dear Andrew

I have received your kind letter of the 29th ultimo, that of the 24th. was received & answered on the 9th instant. You cannot but be aware, of the continued friendship I bear for you, and how happy I have ever been to have you with me—and ~~under~~ in my present situation how much aid you could afford me—but when you see the manner in which my bitter and insiduous enemies, once professing friends, has arrayed your and your family against me, to injure & prostrate me—you will at once see, how improper it would be, under present circumstances to have your family with me, unless my friends could be treated with the same comity as the family of my enemies, in short my dear Andrew, unless we could live in unison of friendship, & harmony. The toast given here on the 4th. instant, was intended for the basest purpose—but from the vast number of respectable families that has been in the habit of associating with Major Eaton & his lady, I have no doubt but the villains would attempt to go

farther—but the dare not. The toast has arrayed Mrs. Calhoun, Mrs. Ingham, and your dear Emily, against those who associated with Major Eaton & his family, and you never witnessed higher indignation in the breasts of any people, than are now in the breasts of all those who associated with them, and they are prepared to hold Mr Calhoun responsible the moment the least evidence can be produced that he countenances this toast. To me it appears, that no greater indignity can be offered to a lady, than to toast her for political effect, or for any other cause, than her own intrinsick virtues—had my wife been held up to public gaze in a political toast for effect, I would at once address the committee of arrangements, and sternly ~~&~~ but leconicly tell them that I felt the indignity offered to my wife by the toast, & if political demagogues high in office could condescend to the meaness to circulate secrete slander against female character, & then have it displayed in bold relief at a public festival thro their panders, for political effect, that they had mistook ~~you~~ me, by supposing ~~you~~ I would permit ~~your~~ my lady to be held up in such odious form, that ~~you~~ I viewed the villain who could secretely pirate on female character worse than the pirate at sea, who is considered the enemy of man, and aught to be treated accordingly. Such a reply would be worthy of the indignity offered to your wife, and worthy of yourself—a short time will unfold all the villainous course of Calhoun Ingham & Co. They will stop at nothing—but my dear Andrew they cannot injure me, or move Pennsylvania. Doctor Randolph has cleared himself from the thralldom of office, and is now clear to protect his own private rights, & that of his family[1] They secrete slanderers, I am told on this being known, have opened their eyes. Randolph has displayed the feelings of a high minded honorable man—he despises office when it comes in contact with the protection of character. I have just learned, that the citizens (a number of Claymen) as well as Jacksonians, united with the military & civil officers, intend giving Eaton a dinner if he will accept it. Major Eaton will leave here for Nashville in a few days.

I am not very well—give my compliments to Emily, Mary Easton & the sweet little ones, & to all my connection & neighbours[.] your affectionately

Andrew Jackson

P.S. the Papers of all politics are belabouring Ingham. The Pennsylvania presses as well as those of Newyork—he is *smashd*. rely upon it. I hope Branch may escape his fate. I ~~always~~ knew that Calhoun would destroy all those who sailed in his wake, he has no common sense, but great depravity of heart—this will be shewn.

ALS, DLC-Donelson Papers; Envelope, T (18-0178).

1. Philip G. Randolph resigned this day as chief clerk of the War Department, and AJ appointed John Robb (c1791–1869) acting chief clerk in his stead (DNA-RG 107, M222-29).

To Martin Van Buren

Washington july 11th. 1831—

My Dr Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your kind letter of the 21rst. ulto. with Col Moors letter enclosed, which was sent to me at the Rip Raps, from whence I returned on the 7th. instant—and this moment I have recd. your very interesting letter of the 2nd. instant which I have hastily read, and now give it a partial answer.

The first intimation I have had of the enemy attempting to hold out the idea that my confidence was lessened in you, was your letter just received—you are aware that I never read the papers, that diffuse falshood, rather than truth—therefore the groundless rumor had never reached my ear. Since you left me, I have been visited by many; at the Rip Raps ~~I was vissited by~~ many from Richmond va, and Norfolk ~~& elsewhere,~~ came to see me, when your name was introduced, my opinion was frankly given, from which no one could believe my confidence was lessened in you—~~and~~ I have no doubt, ~~but~~ it would be pleasing to our enemies if they could circulate the report, & obtain belief in it, that our confidence in each other, had been interrupted; I shall now take some pains (having heard of the wicked attempt, without seeming to do so) to shew that my confidence have not been lessened, but increased—this will meet the falshood, & have no injurious effect, but a good one ~~to~~ in puting down the falshood. It is fortunate that our enemies have lied so long, that their ~~*lies*~~ untruths do *good* rather than harm.

The disgraceful course of Mr Ingham, has, & will forever prostrate him. I am humbled when I reflect that a man who stood so high in good old Pennsylvania, & was exalted to a seat in the Cabinet, has been so vindictive & destitute of common sense, as to adopt, the degrading course he has, so disgraceful to himself, and the nation—~~but~~ I trust you will see ~~in~~ that the ~~wole~~ whole course I have adopted in this matter, is calm & proper. you will see that the moment I found he was writing letters, ~~to me~~ & having them published before they reached me, I directed Mr Trist to answer his last, & thus, closed the correspondence—when you read it, you will find he has no regard to the truth of the facts, but wishes me to become a prosecutor in his stead, & hold forth to the world that I keep the clerks under duress from giving testimony. I refer you to the correspondence which you will find in the Globe.

I have ordered the Potomac to be at Newyork on the first of august next, to take you to England—in this ship, as a mark of my confidence, I wish you to sail—but I am afraid it will not be in my power to meet you there—we have letters of the 30th. of May from Mr McLane, at which date, he had not recd our despatches asking him to come home, and to accept of the Treasury Dept. made vacant by the resignation, or as Mr Ingham would say, his dismissal.[1]

Judge White has finally declined Col Drayton was then offered the war office, declined, and Governor Cass appointed, who I suppose, will accept. Tanney has been appointed atto. Genl. Mr. Berrien has resigned & acted well on the occasion; his first letter to Eaton was a deep, *considered*, diplomatic letter, but his last, frank & honorable. The contrast has sunk Ingham, & Govr. Branch, in his Parthian flight, has weakened him self, in Carolina, & it is supposed Bynam will beat him for Congress—he is *sick*—but able, (as high authority says) to circulate secrete slander against me—it will recoil upon himself, it has its antidote, if well used.[2]

Major Eatons decorous and firm course has raised him in the estimation of the citizens here, & elsewhere, & prostrated Ingham. They citizens, here, I am told, have offered him a dinner, whether he will accept it, I have not heard. Judge Overton is with me, goes to Philadelphia tomorrow, unless Major Eaton accepts of the dinner, and as Major Barry goes with him, may be detained a day or two—he sends his kind respects to you, he is much mended

Mr Rhea is at home in improved health, awaiting the *answer to his letter*, which he will, *now* never receive, or if Mr Monroe had lived, my opinion was, he would not answer, because he could not deny the statement made in Mr Rheas letter, and silence was the only course. I have no doubt but Mr Calhoun was advised of it, he is pursuing his old course, of secrete writing, & slandering me, I have a few extracts from his letters sent to me, which in due time, will aid *in finishing the picture*, *I mean to draw of him.*

I said to him in my reply to his letter "when leisure would permit, & the documents were at hand, I would present a different colouring to the subject, than he had given to it."[3] I *will fulfil my promise*—you may rest assured Duff Green, Calhoun & Co, are politically dead. Mr Earle & Major join in kind respects to you & sons & accept the assurance of my friendship & esteem

Andrew Jackson

I write this in haste with an excrutiating head ache. I have no time to copy; and you must accept the hasty scrall just as it is, & decypher it as well as you can. I will write you soon again yr friend A. J.

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (18-0191). Van Buren replied on July 16 (below).

1. On June 27, Navy secretary Woodbury ordered the new frigate *Potomac* from Norfolk to New York, to be ready to board Van Buren by August 1 (DNA-RG 45, M149-19). On that day AJ commissioned Van Buren as U.S. minister to Great Britain, succeeding Louis McLane.

2. Jesse Atherton Bynum (1797–1868) did not challenge Branch for Congress in 1831, but succeeded to his seat in 1833.

3. A paraphrase from AJ to Calhoun, May 30, 1830 (*Jackson Papers*, 8:321–22).

From Joseph Evans Jenkins

At a meeting of the State Rights Party of Edings Ville, held on the 12th July 1831 Col. Jos E. Jenkins was appointed Chairman and Geo. W. Seabrook, Secretary, the following Preamble and resolutions prefaced by some appropriate remarks were offered by the Hon W. B. Seabrook and unanimously adopted.

In the letter from the Union Party of Charleston to the President of the United States, allegations of no equivocal character are introduced, designed, it would seem, to disparage, if not to vilify, the principles and acts of their political opponents. The obvious intent of that communication was, by eliciting the Views of General Jackson on certain moot points, to array his name not merely against a party, but in opposition to the recorded opinion of the constituted authorities of the State. To the accusation thus gravely alleged against *the people* of South Carolina, the federal executive has responded in a manner as unexpected, as it is revolting to the elevated feelings of freemen. Proceeding on the assumption that the Union is in peril, he has ventured like his predecessor, to threaten the interposition of the national arm to crush the supposed "plan of disorganization." At this solemn denunciation, levelled at a Sovreign member of the confederacy, for daring to defend from pollution the sacred bequest of our fathers, the advocate of consolidation—the Satellite of Clay and of Webster—the modern Unionist—the Manufacturer—the disciple of Wilberforce, all may rejoice; but to the faithful supporter of the rights of the States it arouses sensations only of deep and painful indignation. As a constituent portion of the body politic it behooves this meeting to declare, and they do it in the spirit which becomes the solemnity of the occasion, that "by whatever patriotic name it may be decorated, or whatever high feelings may be arrayed for its support," any attempt to assail the Sanctuary of State Sovreignty, or to browbeat the Citizens of South Carolina into submission to the lawless edicts of the general government "must and will at all hazards be resisted."[1] That the representations of the Union party have induced General Jackson to infer the correctness of the charge of disloyalty to our federal institutions as applicable to the good people of South Carolina is no longer questionable. To sustain that imputation, the agents of the Manufacturers throughout the Union, but especially in Charleston, have exhausted every device which human ingenuity could invent. They have succeded. To us we regard it not. In defence of our altars onward we will move until hope shall be extinguished by the steel of hired Soldiery.

Influenced by these considerations and with a view to repel the gross and unwarrantable aspersions of a port[ion] of our fellow Citizens, Be it Resolvd.—

1st. That in support of the Constitution of the United States on the condition ratified by South Carolina in 1788, "we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honour."

2nd. That the only practicable mode of perpetuating the Union of these States, is promptly and unceasingly to resist every encroachment on the federative principle of the government, however specious the guise under which it may appear.

3rd. That the attempt by the Union party of Charleston to create an impression abroad, that their fellow citizens who differ with them on principle are conspiring against the liberties of their common country, is derogatory to the high and chivalrous character of Carolinians, and bears in its every feature the impress of consolidation.

4th. That so much of the letter of the federal executive as was designed to intimidate our State councils, or to awe the people in the execution of their most sacred duty, has engendered feelings, which, from respect for his elevated station, we would desire to repress.

5th. That a copy of these proceedings be transmitted by the Chairman to the President of the United States, and to the Committee of arrangements, who, in behalf of the Union Party invited General Jackson to a public dinner on the late anniversary of American Independence.

G. W. Seabrook Secy.
Jos E Jenkins Cha.

[Endorsed by Jenkins:] Sir, I have been instructed to forward you the above proceedings. I am sir very respectfully yours &c Jos E Jenkins

[Endorsed by AJ:] resolutions of the State right party So. Carolina to be filed & preserved A. J. It breaths a spirit of civil war, it breaths a spirit of disunion, its object is to alarm & intimidate. This can have no effect, I will do my duty & call my brethern back to their duty & maintain the union—A. J.

DS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-70). Edingsville was on Edisto Island. These proceedings were a rejoinder to the June 5 address of John Stoney et al. to AJ and AJ's June 14 reply, both above. Jenkins (1793–1874) was a sometime South Carolina legislator and later a member of the 1860 secession convention. George Washington Seabrook (1808–1866) was a planter, and Whitemarsh Benjamin Seabrook (1793–1855) was a state legislator and later governor.

1. William Wilberforce (1759–1833) was a famous British abolitionist. The quotations are all from AJ's June 14 reply to the South Carolina Unionists, above.

Memorandum on Andrew M. Laub's Testimony

In your conversation on the 23rd. of June (the day you presented me your affidavit) you stated that Mr Ingham was accompanyed with Col

Towson and others named in your deposition to the T. Department, that Col Towson went ~~into the~~ & opened the audience room, & looked into it. That you were informed that Col Towson, Mr Rodman, & Mr Mcginnis accompanyed Mr Ingham to Baltimore—read to Mr Laub this 12th. of July 1831, and admitted by him to be correct.

A. J.

ANS, NjP (18-0198). Andrew M. Laub, Gilbert Rodman Jr. (1800–1862), and John McGinnis Jr. were clerks in the Secretary of the Treasury's office.

To Benjamin B. Cooper

Dr Sir

your letter of the 15th. ultimo came duly to hand, but I could not answer it with propriety until I wrote home, to be informed of the ~~state~~ & condition of ~~the stud horse~~ Bolivar, ~~which is~~ the Stud Horse I proposed to sell you. I have just recd a letter from my son stating he is in good condition, & high health, that his colts are of the first order both as to size & appearance. Bolivar was got by oscar, by wonder, by the imported & celebrated Horse Diomede.[1] His dam by Pacolet, by Citizen—his grand dam by Truxton, one of the first colts of the imported Diomede, his Great Grand dam the noted running mare opossum filly, famed in her day for ~~the~~ four mile heats—her Pedigree has been mislaid so that it cannot be found—but she was got by wildair, ~~or Bellair~~ as I believe Bolivar is about sixteen hands and one Inch high, a beatiful dapple Gray six years old next September, finely formed, his bone & sinew not surpassed by any horse in america, and his blood as pure as any stock can be—he is well calculated for a breeding horse, for the saddle, harness or the Turf, for which I will take two thousand dollars and deliver him at this place between this and the first of January next. If the horse Bolivar does not fill the description given of him When examined by the Gentleman selected to receive him, ~~the~~ he remains my property if he does two thousand dollars to be paid for him on delivery or secured to be paid at a short day. On the receipt of your answer that you will take him on those terms, I will order him on here & when he reaches here will advise you thereof—a speedy answer will oblige me, as their are several applications for this Horse.

AL draft, DLC (39). Cooper (1779–1835) was a New Jersey land dealer, agricultural improver, and former state legislator. On June 15 he had written AJ to inquire about purchasing a stud horse for the "New Jersey Association for improving the breed of Horses" (DLC-39). AJ endorsed Cooper's letter "replied to the 13th of july 1831." He sold Cooper an interest in Bolivar on October 21 (below).

1. Diomed was a famed English thoroughbred imported to Virginia in 1798.

To John Henry Eaton

Washington july 14th. 1831

Sir

Mr Ingham in a letter to me of the 21rst. of june last recd on the 22nd., has charged certain public officers, he says, *friends and associates of yours*, with being armed with the design to assail & assasinate him &c. Before you leave the city I have to request of you to state to me in writing whatever you may feel at liberty in justice to yourself to communicate on this subject; It may become necessary in justice to you, to him & to the public, that I ~~may be constrained~~ should, fully ~~to~~ investigate this matter, which he has so earnestly demanded, and to which enquiry I am cheerfully disposed, that the innocent may be shielded, and the guilty, when ascertained, properly dealt with. I am very respectfully yrs

Andrew Jackson

ALS draft, DLC (39).

From John Macpherson Berrien

Washington 15th. July '31—

Mr Berrien presents his respects to the President, and sends for his perusal, two letters received by this morning's mail—

Mr Berrien takes leave to call the attention of the President to the request of Genl Coffee, whose character will be a sufficient guarantee for the faithful application of any funds which may be intrusted to him—

Mr Berrien asks the return of these letters, to which he wishes to reply by tomorrows mail—and he will cheerfully answer any enquiries, which their perusal may suggest to the President—

Genl Coffee's post office is at *Jacksonville, Telfair County, Georgia*.

AN, DLC (39).

To John Macpherson Berrien

The President returns his respects to Judge Berrien, acknowledges the receipt of his note inclosing Genl Coffees & Mr Lucas letters to him of the 29th. & 30th. of june last upon the subject of the Creek Indians; you can say to Genl Coffee that some time past the quarter master at agusta G.a. was instructed to furnish Genl Coffee or such agents ~~that~~ as might accompany the delegation of the creeks hither, ~~that~~ and who might be

cloathed with powers to enter into a treaty for their removal West of the Mississippi—you will also inform him that I have directed the orders to be reiterated to the quarter master at agusta, and he will meet with no delay as it regards funds to bring them on[1]

AL draft, DLC (39). Walter Ballard Lucas (1795–1862), a trader and innkeeper in Montgomery Co., Ala., had been coadjuting with John Coffee of Georgia and Berrien over Creek removal.

1. Abram C. Fowler (1785–1834) was acting assistant quartermaster at Augusta. On May 27 he had been ordered to supply $400 to William Hardin's Cherokee delegation on its way to Washington. On July 15 the War Department instructed the quartermaster general's office to reiterate those orders to Fowler, which, admitting bafflement at the reason for the instruction, it did the same day (DNA-RG 92, M745-8).

To George Rockingham Gilmer

Washington July 15. 1831

Sir

Your letter upon the subject of enrolling the Indians for emigration has been received, and the suggestions made by you seriously considered.

I am extremely anxious that our tribes of Indians within the States should be prevailed upon to remove. Collisions between themselves and the whites will be thereby avoided, and their condition immensely improved. Of these, none can doubt, who will dispassionately look to their condition, their situation, and the *circumstances* which surround them. But how is emigration to be effected? I fear, not by the plan which you suggest.

The Cherokees are at present divided into two parties; the one willing to remove; the other opposed. The first class is principally made up of the common Indians; the latter is composed of the Chiefs and leading men, who unwilling to risk their present places and power, are indisposed to unite with their brothers to the West of the Mississippi. Now if enrolment be resorted to, which is the mode you propose, those adverse to removing will all remain, and thus will be increased the difficulties of procuring a cession of the country by treaty. All opposition to the views and wishes of the present dominant party will be taken away; and but little hope will remain of effecting a negotiation with them for the Country. With the best reflection I can give to the subject, there seem to me, to be consequences, which must and will arise from the course proposed.

That Georgia should be anxiously concerned about this matter, is quite natural. She has waited patiently for nearly thirty years; and when the possession of her territory may be had, is even yet, apparently uncertain; and hence, I am disposed to adopt any pacific and reasonable plan, where probable success may be calculated upon. Although I fear that the plan you propose is not an encouraging one, yet in consideration of the impor-

tance of the subject, and the desire you express, I am willing to forego my own opinions and make the attempt, as it regards the Cherokees. Accordingly the agent will be instructed, and an assistant with proper directions be associated in the undertaking to ascertain how far the suggestion you have made is capable of being put successfully into operation. Very Respectfully Your Obd Ser

Andrew Jackson

LS in John Robb's hand, G-Ar (18-0220). On August 13, Secretary of War Cass wrote Cherokee agent Hugh L. Montgomery that although doubtful of its results, AJ was willing to try the "experiment" of removal by voluntary enrollment. Montgomery was to recruit enrollees, report their numbers to Washington, and prepare them to remove "at a very short notice" (*SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 320–21, Serial 245). AJ wrote Cass appointing an emigration agent on August 29 (below).

From William Pope Duval

(private)

Tallahassee July 15th: 1831

Dear General

I have received information from a gentleman, wholely unconnected with the Government but a warm friend of yours—That Coln Jo M White, has obtained copys of your letters to the late Doctr. Bronaugh, written as they were in all the confidence due to a dear and valued friend These letters fell into the hands of George Walton your former Secretary in this Territory—and I have no doubt so far as you expressed your private and confidential opinions of men, who at the time were using every means to distroy your reputation, the same will in all probability be used now to injure you. Coln. White has made an attack on you in a speech lately dilivered at dinner given to him at Pensacola, and no doubt he had at that moment a copy of your letters to Dr. Bronaugh.[1] White has said he has sustained great injury from you and that he has it now in his power to revenge himself—but he has not decided what course he will pursue. He intends to visit Washington, and means to see Mr Calhoun and Mr. Clay—before he decides which shall have his support—and I have no doubt his object is to make the best bargin he can—feeling to you as I do, it is my duty to give you this information for never while I live will I consent to be nuter, between your self and any other man living. The whole political tribe may change sides. I never can. I had my personal friends—divided in the late Presidential contest, but while I acknowledge my attachment to such friends—I have taken and maintained the path of honor and principle. It is this course that has drawn down on me all the mallice and callumy of White and his friends who have ever been your secret and silent enimies untill, the late events at Washington has embolden them to come out in a body against you

As I have determined to retire from office—as my last letter informed you, yet under no circumstances can I ever scease to love & revere you as I do my aged Father. Misfortunes and poverty may drive me to private life. The *latter cirtainly will*—for my large and helpless family must have more of my attention, or suffer much distress in the event of my death. But go where I may whether holding the handle of the plough at the Barr or in the councils of my counrty you will find the same steady attachment towards you as I have ever evinced since I first became acquainted with you.

I am convinced General, that some desyning person (who I can not even conjecture) has endeavoured to impress Majr Eaton with the opinion that I was unfriendly to him or his enemy. Majr. Eaton is out of office and In a few months I shall retire, but I pledge you the word of a sincere and honest friend—that I never was the enemy of Majr Eaton at any time, that I have often defended him from the slanders of his enimes—and that at no time have I ever expressed any opinion about him, which he would not have been pleased to hear. I do not believe any man ever had a purer, warmer, and more devoted friend, than you have found in Majr. Eaton. I believe he is a virtuous, honest, and independant man—and incapable of doing a mean act. No man has been more slander, except yourself.

Majr. Eaton if we live a few years shall know me better, and prize me higher than he now does. you must know me too intimately to believe for one moment, that I would thus express myself of Majr. Eaton but as I sincerely think. I wish him evry blessing that he can desire.

Whither I shall remain in Florida or return to Kentucky is uncirtain but as I shall see you if I live next winter, you will then be informed of my destination not that it can be of any importance to you but from a belief that you will feel some interest in a friend—who has ever, and must always—dilight to be ranked among the few—who from *first* to *last* may be worthy of your esteem and friendship[.] your friend

Wm. P. Duval

I do not desire any office, nor is this letter written with a view, to induce you to suppose I want any other situation. I am too poor to take an office. and my neglect of my private affairs—has already brought me to the virge of ruin. I can only relieve myself by close attention to my private business

[Endorsed by AJ:] Govr. Duval on the subject of Col White—& my private letters to Dr. Bronoagh in the hands of Col Walton—A. J.

ALS, DLC (39). Duval (1784–1854) had been governor of Florida Territory since 1822. On April 18 AJ had issued him a temporary commission for a new four-year term. Florida Territory congressional delegate Joseph M. White had charged Duval with official abuse and attempted to block his reappointment (*TPUS*, 24:508–13).

1. George Walton (c1790–1863) had been secretary of Florida Territory when AJ was governor and was the executor of the estate of AJ's late friend and aide, James C. Bronaugh. In 1830 Charles P. Tutt and Robert Butler had appealed to Walton on AJ's behalf for the return of AJ's private letters to Bronaugh, but were rebuffed (*Jackson Papers*, 8:333–34).

Duval wrote AJ Donelson on January 28, 1831, offering his aid in retrieving the letters and warning that if Walton refused it meant he "*has gone over to Coln. White*" (Donelson Papers, DLC). At a Pensacola public dinner in his honor on May 30, White castigated AJ's presidency for "proscription" and "tyranny" and praised the previous Adams administration's attentions to Florida (Washington *Daily National Journal*, June 21, 1831).

To John Reynolds

[By an 1804 treaty whose validity was later challenged, the Sac (or Sauk) and Fox Indians ceded their domain east of the Mississippi River in present northwest Illinois and southwest Wisconsin, retaining a right of occupancy until the lands were surveyed and sold by the U.S. Later treaties confirmed the cessions, and in 1828 the Indians were ordered to remove permanently west of the river. In 1829 the government offered the Illinois lands for sale, and white settlers began moving in. However, several hundred Sacs and other Indians under leadership of Black Hawk (1767–1838) returned in 1830 and again in 1831 from their winter quarters in Iowa to the vicinity of Rock Island. On May 26, 1831, Illinois governor John Reynolds (1788–1865) notified Indian superintendent William Clark at St. Louis that he had summoned 700 mounted militia to drive the Indians "dead, *or* alive, *over to the west side of the Mississippi." Clark informed General Edmund Pendleton Gaines (1777–1849), commanding the Army's Western Department, who wrote Reynolds on May 29 that he was ordering regular infantry from Jefferson Barracks and Prairie du Chien to "repel the invasion" and did not "deem it necessary or proper to require militia." At a conference on June 4, Gaines failed to persuade the Indians to leave, and the next day he accepted Reynolds's offer of militia. At mid-month, when Reynolds apparently wrote Jackson, he and Gaines were preparing to expel the Indians by force, pending authorization from Washington. However, on June 30 the Sacs signed articles of "agreement and capitulation" with Gaines and Reynolds, compelling them to remove. They returned in 1832, precipitating the Black Hawk War (*Black Hawk War, *2:13, 22–23, 35–36, 85–88).]*

Washington, July 16. 1831.

Sir,

Your favor of the 15th ulto. (post-marked 22d) has this moment come to hand, apprising me of the measures taken by you on being "informed, that a band of the Sac Indians had actually invaded the State near Rock Island, and that the Citizens were in imminent danger." Various rumors on the subject have reached here within a day or two past, through the papers & other channels; but this is the first official intelligence I have received.

I lose no time in requesting, that you will, at your earliest convenience, make a report on this invasion: stating the number of Indians, their

deportment, pretensions and acts; and showing the necessity for calling out the Militia, and the number ordered, in addition to the Regular Force on the frontier. A copy of your correspondence with Genl. Gaines is also desired. I am, Sir, very respectfully, Yr. obt. Servt.

Andrew Jackson

LS in Nicholas P. Trist's hand, IHi (18-0226). Copy, I-Ar (mAJs). *Black Hawk War*, 2:109. Reynolds replied on August 2 (below). Meanwhile, on July 21, AJ ordered western Indian agents to report "*forthwith*" on Black Hawk's "invasion" and explain why they had not done so previously (*Black Hawk War*, 2:110).

From Hector Craig

New York July 16th: 1831

Dear Sir

Feeling Sir, as I do, a deep interest in your public acts, as they shall affect your own Fame, as well as the moral and political condition of the Nation, I have not been altogether a heedless observer of the events which have transpired at Washington, since I last, had the pleasure of seeing you. In the discharge of you varied and arduous duties, it is highly gratifying to see that the "opposition" find so little to cavil at. The *spirit* of hostility however appears to have lost none of its virulence—its character becoming the more apparent, as the objects upon which to vent itself, are continually being removed. The 4th of July celebration at Washington by the "National Republicans," affords ample evidence of the truth of this remark. I have no recollection of noticing a set of toasts, so insulting & malicious, so perfectly devoid of common courtesy, on any occasion, and furnishing such ample testimony of the rottenness of *the cause*, in the support of which, it becomes necessary to substitute slander and abuse, for facts and arguments.

I sincerely regret the rupture of friendship, as recently manifested between Major Eaton, and Mr. Ingham, having viewed them both in the light of friends the rupture is made the more unpleasant.

I have always indulged for Major Eaton, a strong personal regard; and the belief that he had *your confidence* has not tended to lessen it.

As but few men are without some enemies it must be gratifying to him, to be assured that he has many friends. I think the Major and his Family have been basely, most basely slandered. I envy not that man his feelings, nor that party its principles, whose ends are to be accomplished or whose triumphs are to be obtained, by invading the sanctuary of private life, and subjecting to suspicion the character of an innocent and virtuous female.

The resignation, or removal of Doct. Randolph from office, however it may be regretted on his own account will, I think, be generally approbated by your friends, as evincing a spirit of consistancy and impartiality,

which your enemies were, no doubt, hoping you would not exercise. I am satisfied however that (appart from its official bearing) you will find an excuse for the Doct's course under the peculiar, not to say, controuling circumstances under which he was placed.

I have just been reading President Madisons, letter to Mr Ingersoll, on the U. S. Bank question. the Bank men will, no doubt, endeavour to give to his views a very important bearing, on acct. of his reputed political orthodoxy. my humble judgement does not enable me to see that, they can derive much advantage from them. precedent with him is paramount to every other consideration. The unconstitutionallity of an act, or the inexpediency of it, after it has been stamped with Legislative authority, should not be again considered. The venerable George Clinton, did not so reason, when he gave his vote against renewing the charter of the U. S. Bank in 1811—[1]

But should his opinion as to the constitutionallity be sound, it does not follow that, such a Bank as we now have, should exist.

The ojections, to my mind, are so strong, that, I think even the influence of Mr. Madisons sentiments, can not remove them. I am Dear Sir, with great regard Your most Obedt. And Humble Sert.

Hector Craig

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr Hector Craig Newyork—private—for my private file—it is valuable & on the subject of Major Eaton & Mr. Ingham—& on the Bank, Mr Madisons opinion A. J.

ALS, DLC (39). Craig (1775–1842), recently a congressman, was appointed New York City customs surveyor by AJ in 1833.

1. In January Charles J. Ingersoll had queried James Madison, as he had James Monroe, about AJ's proposal for a government-owned alternative to the Bank of the United States. Madison's February 2 reply, published by Ingersoll, briefly declared that "I readily decide against the project recommended by the President." Ingersoll inquired further, and on June 25 Madison elaborated. Repelling a possible charge of inconsistency, he explained that he had originally opposed the first Bank of the United States as unconstitutional in 1791, but that a mass of precedents amounting to a "national judgment" had settled its constitutionality by the time he, as president, signed the second Bank's charter in 1816. Madison argued that failure to accord "the respect due to deliberate and repeated precedents" would "introduce uncertainty and instability in the constitution." On February 20, 1811, a bill to recharter the first Bank had been defeated in the Senate by the tie-breaking vote of Vice President George Clinton (1739–1812). Madison claimed to Ingersoll that it was "a fact well understood at the time" that the defeat of recharter turned on other than constitutional grounds, as "on a simple question of constitutionality, there was a decided majority in favor of it" (Philadelphia *National Gazette*, March 5 and July 14, 1831). Clinton himself had explained his vote to the Senate on grounds that the constitution gave Congress no power to create corporations (*Annals of Congress*, 11th Cong., 3d sess., pp. 346–47).

From Martin Van Buren

Kinderhook July 16th 1831

My dear Sir

Your affectionate & gratifying letter of the 11th. instant reached me at this place. Accept my kindest thanks for it. Having been for some time without accurate advice upon points in which I can never cease to feel a deep interest, I was much pleased with the intelligent & satisfactory view of things which it presented. The prudence promptitude & propriety of the course you have pursued in regard to the complaints of Mr Ingham meet as far I can learn with little short of universal approbation—men who condemn you in all things else appear disposed to make this an exception. as far as appearances are to be trusted, it is I think safe to conclude, that we shall not hear much more upon the subject; & all things considered we have not had more heart-burning, & consequent disturbances than were to have been expected, from a step so important, & so operative upon the present interests & future hopes of man—as the dissolution of an existing Cabinet & the formation of a new one. Every thing which has happened has seemed to increase the satisfaction of all well disposed persons, with the change which has been effected, & when your Cabinet is once full, & in the harness, it is not in the nature of things but that the course of the administration must be onward & prosperous. Depend upon one thing in regard to which there is no mistake—the confidence & affections of the people are with you. Their fears about recent events have been deeply excited, but I have constantly observed a willingness, & I may say anxiety to be satisfied that all was right & a fixed distrust of the representations of the Coalition presses. I came to this place in company with your old friend the Revd. Mr Schermerhorn who informs me that he has written to you upon the subject of the Indians, & I promised him that I would also bring the matter to your notice. You are so much more competent than myself to judge of the expediency of the recommendation suggested by Mr. Schermerhorn, that I would not feel justified in making a single remark upon the point.[1] That the "Christian portion of the community" as he calls them are extremely busy upon the point is certainly true, but that they will be able to make any thing out of the subject, as it now stand, I do not believe. In the sincerity of the great mass of those who under different pretenses busy themselves in the matter I have no confidence. Still if any suggestions could be thrown out in the message ~~touching~~ in regard to a provision by Congress ~~for~~ looking to the ~~future~~ improvement & ultimate civilization &c of the removing tribes, & which should steer clear of the cant & quackery of the opposition presses, missionaries, & orators, it might be well to do so. There are doubtless many of our friends connected by religious ties with those who are labouring with the public mind upon the subject, who would be gratified to be placed in a situation, in which

they could successfully defend the conduct of the administration upon the point, & according to their own notions of right—but I repeat you know best what ought to be done, & will have a most able adviser in your new Secretary of War as you assuredly had in all matters relating to the Indians in the last.[2] I feel the more solicitude upon this point from a conviction that the success which will have attended your conduct of Indian affairs is destined to constitute one of the most distinguished traits in your administration, & from a consequent desire that nothing which can promote what has already been done should be omitted. The ability & discretion with which any thing connected with Indian affairs was conducted by Major Eaton give him a claim to the confidence & favour of the people which it is the duty of his successor to protect and preserve; & when I refer to Indian matters in particular, I do so only because it is the subject under consideration, & not by any means to convey the idea that all his other duties were not performed with fidelity & ability.

I write to Mr Livingston to day that I shall hold myself ready to leave the U. S. as soon after Mr McLanes arrival as an opportunity for an interview with him shall have been afforded me. according to my views of the matter a previous meeting with him is so desirable as to make it almost indispensable. Until we hear from him I must of course be kept in a state of suspense. I shall however take care to keep within striking distance. I spoke to Mr Livingston upon the subject of giving me permission to ~~visit a part of~~ leave my station & visit the Continent whenever I may desire it, & shall be able to do so without prejudice to the public service. This permission has always been a matter of course when asked for and it may be useful to me to have it in advance. Contingencies may arise in which I may make myself useful by visiting Paris in an informal manner of which I might be deprived by being under the necessity of first sending home for leave.

How is your health? Was your stay at the Rip Raps agreeable & as useful as heretofore? I sincerely hope that you will devise some way to relieve yourself from the pressure of applications upon small matters by which you have hither to been persecuted. The universal impression is that you expose yourself to more vexation upon this point than the good people have a right to expect & to more I believe than it is in human nature to bear for any great length of time. If Judge Overton is still with you remember me affectionately to him as well as to Messrs Lewis & Earle. My health is in general very good but I am at the moment suffering somewhat from the effects of Kinderhook hospitality & will therefore conclude this uninteresting epistle by assuring you of my unwavering affection & unqualified respect

M Van Buren

Please make my best respects to Mr Trist & desire him to do so to Mrs T & the family[3]

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr Van Buren—acknowledged July 23rd. 1831 A. J.

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (18-0228). AJ replied on July 23 (below).

1. John F. Schermerhorn had written AJ on June 23 (above).

2. Lewis Cass had published a comprehensive defense of AJ's Indian removal policy in the January 1830 *North American Review* (30:62–121). Cass argued that "some insurmountable obstacle in the habits or temperament of the Indians" prohibited their civilization or even survival among whites, and that therefore "the only means of preserving the Indians from that utter extinction which threatens them, is to remove them" beyond the Mississippi.

3. Nicholas P. Trist was married to Virginia Jefferson Randolph (1801–1882), granddaughter of Thomas Jefferson.

From James Alexander Hamilton

New York July 17 1831

My dear Sir

I have for some time past indulged the hope that it would be in my power to slip off to Washington to enjoy your society for a short time—even for a day and night, but that has been and ~~will be~~ is now rendered impossible for at least two or three months to come

My engagements at court have been continued, and having just got through the employment which always follows in their train I must ~~now~~ begin to prepare for one which commences on the ~~first~~ last monday of this month and an other on the first tuesday of the next.

Is it impossible for you to give up to that object as much of your time this summer as might be necessary to enable you to come as far North as this; or is there any thing in you having been invited elsewhere that would forbid your taking this direction. I am quite sure the Journey would be useful to your health & that it would tend to your increased usefulness. If to do so, be not of questionable propriety, I could most heartily wish you to take such a Journey as well from public as personal considerations.

The recent events in which so much folly has been mixed with an equal portion of Malevolence have been useful to you; There is in this community but one opinion as to Mr Ingham and of your treatment of him His intended great Stroke ~~of~~ for Effect has recoiled upon ~~him~~ himself even to the death. He followed the example of Calhoun in his charge of *a Plot* and has met the same fate; the American public are too enlightened to be cajouled by assertion, they require evidence, and rational Evidence too, before they yield their belief in Plots or conspiracies for the purposes of assasinations

I may also in connection with the subject of your increasing strength advert to your letter to the Committee of "The Union & State Rights Party"[1] The sentiments there expressed cannot be too deeply impressed upon the Public mind; They will preserve the union under almost any state of things. It has become and particularly with our misguided brethern of

the South a fashion to discuss the question of disunion Whereas there is no point upon which there should exist a feeling of Loyalty so strong as that ~~of~~ to the Union ~~to~~ of these States—and it would be well if in the Public acts of our functionaries, In the newspapers, in our Intercourse in private life, in our domestic economy, & even in our religious exercises, The Sentiment of *Loyalty to the union* should be treated as a sacred principle and the reverse a disgraceful thought. The influence of such a Sentiment when It becomes a habit ~~will be~~ is vastly extensive, binding, a useful. We have seen when directed even to a degrading purpose; towards an Individual in the character of a King capable of producing acts of the most sublime self devotion ~~or~~ & heroic achievement: how much more powerful might it not be made to operate when it ~~was~~ should be excited to a burning Loyalty towards our united Country & common Government. This theme which ~~is closer~~ comes closer to my heart than almost any other feeling that reaches it, has lead me away fr ~~the~~ my original purpose in writing to you which was to gratulate you upon the issue of the events to which I have referred—and to renew to you the assurance of my best wishes for your continued health & happiness I remain with the truest attachment Your friend & svt

James A Hamilton

[Endorsed by AJ]: Col Hamilton acknowledge July 23rd. 1831 A. J.

ALS, DLC (39). AJ replied on July 23 (below).
1. AJ to John Stoney et al., June 14 (above).

To Richard Gilliam Dunlap

Private

Washington july 18th. 1831

My Dr Sir

I have just received your letter of the 30th. ulto. and snatch a moment from publick duty to reply to it.

I am happy to learn that your health is improving whilst I regret to hear that it has been feeble; if my good wishes for your vigorous health will give it, I send them with great sincerity.

As I have but a moment to write, you will excuse my brevity on the various points of your letter.

Whilst it is pleasing to hear that the reorganisation of my Cabinet meets with the approbation of Tenness, as well as the whole union, I cannot omit a passing notice on your remarks on this subject as it respects Major Eaton—it is this—"Major Eaton leaves the war Dept. by the consent of all parties" In this you are badly informed, he leaves it with the great regret of a large majority of the army and citizens of this place,

who without regard to politics, tendered him a dinner which he declined. This was not offered to any other of the resigned Cabinet. Great regret has been expressed by many of the citizens of Pennsylvania, Newyork, ohio, & Indiana, to which you may add my own—whilst all approve the high honorable feelings that give rise to ~~his~~ Mr Van Burens and Major Eatons resignations, when they found harmony in the Cabinet could not be maintained.

I fear my friend you have been reading, and giving too much credence to the Slang of Genl Duff Greens, and other opposition papers, to be correctly informed as to facts here—the plan of Duff Green & Co, are to Slander, and if they could, drive from me every honest man in whom I aught, & have confidence—and it is now well known here that if Major Eaton could have been made the supple tool of Mr Calhoun, and become the enemy of Mr Van Buren, without cause, he, with Major Lewis, would have been ranked with the first, & best men of our country; They, however were too honest to be bought, and too virtuous to do injustice to Mr Van Buren, who, permit me to say, has more honesty and candor, talent, & frankness, than a hundred such as Mr Calhoun. I never acted with a more frank, & candid man, than Mr Van Buren. It is said he is the great magician. I believe it, but his only *wand* is good common sense, which he uses for the benefit of his country—you will open your eyes at this declaration, & perhaps not believe it, be it so—as to the depravity & duplicity of Mr Calhoun before I am done, I will give you ~~the~~ some facts—but before I do, one passing word as to Major Lewis, and first, I must sincerely regret the language used with regard to him, without pointing to some fact that would justify~~ed~~ it. I have seen such Slang in opposition papers, I have heard it from Calhouns tools, in Nashville, but comming from Genl Dunlap, without detailing some facts that would justify it, has really astonished me. I have known him long, I have knew him well—he is honest, & faithful, as far as I know, & believe, and attends to his own, without interfering with others business. you must surely have been taking the Slang of Duff Green, the Philadelphia Centinel, & the city journal for your proof, without looking to the positive refutation of the whole, in the Globe, & Philadelphia Enquirer; if I am right in this, then you might as well believe all that Arnold says about judge White & Mr Lea—and I am sure you do not believe one word of Arnolds slander.[1] they others are as foul—for I assure you, of my own knowledge, I do know several instances wherein Genl Duff Green has wilfully stated falshoods. But suppose I was to "send Major Lewis home—¿do you think this would appease my political, unprincipled enemies; no, no, I must send home Major Barry, Col Campbell, Mr Kendal, and every other friend of mine, that will not become the pliant, & supple tool of Mr. Calhoun, and the open enemy of the unofending Van Buren; who it is pleasing to Duff Green to decry as a plotter, without proof, and who is as innocent of the plots charged, as you are—Genl Dunlap could not ask me to bend to

such humility—and if he was, I assure him, I never part with well tried friends, to gratify my enemies, or for new ones. Therefore for the present will neither part with Barry, Campbell, Smith, Kendal or Major Lewis. When any of them departs from the paths of honesty, propriety, or truth, & it is made manifest to me, I will soon "*send them Home*" not before. Many of my real friends under a great delusion have done me more injury than all my enemies could do, and many who have professed friendship (Calhoun like) under the mask of friendship, has endeavoured to do me much injury. They have been foiled. The moment I was installed, because I appointed Major Eaton, so necessary to me, when judge White declined, all was wrong ¿ & where was there a man, who had laboured so much, & burnt the midnight taper so often, as he did, in my behalf—such a friend as Major Eaton is hard to find, & is worthy to be huged to the boosom as a pearl beyond price. I have, & will so cherrish him. The extracts of sundry letters, being a correspondence between Mr Calhoun & a Gentleman in West Tennessee, explains all this matter[2]—too much credence are given to the Slang of Duff Green & his coadjutors in the opposition with regard to my friends—if the Globe was read it would shew all these tales put down, by positive denials, and proof. Clerks have been engaged here, who has written to Nashville some of the most positive falshoods that ever has been raised, by the most depraved of the opposition, they are just discovered, & some of them will "go home"—*soon*; one fact is now well ascertained, that Duff Green nor Mr Calhoune never supported me. They opposed Mr Adams under my name, to put him down, and now wish to put me down to open the way to the Presidency for Mr Calhoun; Mr. Calhoun, first tried to crush me, by his secrete move in the Cabinet. He prostrated Crawford, and now wishes to Crush Mr Van Buren, least he may be in his way hereafter, & will unite with Mr Clay, or any other, to effect his views—as to myself, I leave these things to the people, they have the right to select their agents, and I hope ever will exercise it—and if they prefer another, I am sure I will be satisfied with my *sweet retirement* at the Hermitage, which I was draged from, contrary to my wishes, and now am complained of, because I select a few well tried friends around me, and will not abandon those for new ones, to gratify one of the most wicked & depraved conspiracies, that ever disgraced any christian country I would loath myself, if any earthly influence could bend me, to so vile a purpose

It is well known the high confidence I once had in Mr Calhoun. I was taught to believe him a high minded and honorable man, capable of friendship, free from duplicity, or falshood. This being my opinion of him, when I returned from the Seminole campaign enfebled with disease, with one foot in the grave, & the other on the brink, and found from the public journals, that there had been a cabinet council held which had divided on the subject of my arrest, for transcending my orders in Florida, I could not believe that Mr Calhoun was approbating such a movement—the Nashville paper ascribed it to Mr Crawford, and that Mr Calhoun was my

shield & supporting against this movement for my destruction; ~~because~~ I knew, that Mr Calhoun & Mr Monroe, could not think so—because my public orders were a chart blank, and my confidential letter had been recd. my views fully made known, and Mr Rhea instructed to write me, that my views were fully approbated. I therefore believed Mr Crawford was this secrete agent of my destruction—for how could I believe that Mr Calhoun, who had said to Govr. Bibb, "that I had orders to carry on the war as I pleased"[3] who had read the confidential letter, had approved it, and said to Mr Munroe it required his answer—who knew that Mr J. Rhea had been instructed, & had answered it, who, in all his letters, and those of confidential friends, had breathed their full approbation of my conduct, I say after all this, how could I suppose that Mr Calhoun was this secrete assasin who had endeavoured to destry my reputation, by his movement in the secrete Cabinet council where he believed his acts never could become public & who had laid it upon another—it is true, in 1824–5, Mr Rankin (member of congress) did tell me, Mr Calhoun, and not Mr Crawford, had made this movement against me.[4] I did not, nay I could not believe he could be so base—nor did I, when I sent him Mr Crawfords statement believe it, until I received his acknowledgement under the sanction of his name, in his reply to my note alluded to. You may ask me, why I was so incredulous. I will tell you—you have read the correspondence, you have seen in it published my confidential letter to Mr Munro, in which Mr J. Rhea is referred to, as a confidential friend thro whom, the wishes of the Executive could be communicated & in sixty days I would carry into effect, the Executive wishes. You have seen that Mr Calhoun read that letter, drew Mr Monroes attention to it, and said, he must answer it. I have now to tell you Mr Rhea did answer it, by the directions of Mr Monroe, approving all my views, this letter was received by me on my way to Ft Scott, Mr Calhoun knew that this letter was answered by Mr Rhea, and that I had complied with the public orders & confidential wishes, to a tittle—he knew I had not, nay could not transcend my orders, and how could I believe that any man, however depraved, could act as it had been stated Mr Calhoun had, by secretely moving my arrest or punishment. I was mistaken—he was the mover—and I now ask you, if a man thus depraved, who could move my arrest & punishment, and publickly hold forth to me his friendship & support, what is it he would not do, to prostrate those he might conceive to be in his way to his views of ambition. Think ye, he would not sever the union rather than not reach the point of his ambition—think ye, would not such a man rather rule in the lower regions, than serve in heaven.[5] His intrigue did not stop here. When I was in this city in 1819, attending the seminole question, Mr Rhea was sent, ~~to me~~ to request me, to burn this letter. Having full confidence in all, I agreed, that as soon I got home, I would burn it. I did so burn it. Mr Calhoun knowing this, when I furnished him with Mr Crawfords statement, he acknowledges his guilt & adds insult to injury, by urging

that I did transcend my orders. Providence has permitted Mr Rhea still to live, and one month before Mr Monroes death he wrote him fully, stating all the facts I have mentioned, a copy of which I hold, with judge Overtons statement of the contents of Mr Rheas letter, which was confidentially submitted to him with others when he wrote the Defence "of the Executive & the commanding General," in the Seminole War. Therefore, a man who can thus act, can subsidies presses, and procure slanderers to vilify me, & all friends who are near me, ~~and~~ who will not fall down & worship him. I therefore have to request, that you will state one instance, wherein Major Lewis has improperly interfered in any matter, either public or private improperly. Charges there has been of such conduct against him, but I trust, you are not one, who take rumor for proof, when put forth by subsidised presses, or hired slanderers.[6] When this shall be, then the most innocent, & virtuous are not safe, & even you may be a victim to the rule. Take a case in point. one of the most profligate characters now in this city is employed by three presses at five dollar a week to pick up all Slander of the most base & vulgar kind, & communicate it by letter, one of these papers in Newyork are under the character of a religious press. I ask what chance has innocence, & virtue under such a system of morales, there is no safety—for any one—and let me ask you, is not he that pirates on private character worse, than the Pirate on the high seas, and ought not every one who sets vallue on character to put his face against the villains that practice it—rumor, recollect, has a hundred tongues, & every tongue a thousand lies, and if such a system of morales is adopted that rumor is to destroy character, then will a virtuous & morale course of life, be no protection to the vile traducer, who can for a dollar set rumor afloat which will destroy the character of father, mother, sister, & daughter. I trust Genl Dunlap will not subscribe to such a dangerous system of morales—all, ~~are~~ in the eye of the law, are viewed innocent, until proved guilty.

I sincerely regret that the multiplied bereavements of my friend judge White, has prevented me from his able aid, in the Dept of War—all my influence was exerted, but has failed—and I have appointed Governor Cass to fill that Dept. I trust my present Cabinet will harmonise—*it must*, I cannot permit such scenes as Mr Munroe suffered in his.[7]

one word & I must close. You may rest assured that all the arts of Mr Calhoune & his satelites cannot coerce me to send my old & well tried friends without cause, to gratify my enemies, and Tennessee was the last place in this union, that I expected a combination to injure me, & promote the views of my most vindictive enemies—it is now clear, that the vile attempt against Eaton was not to injure him, but me, through him—no objections were taken to others, which on the score of rumor as much had been said as against him, & still when he has resigned, it is kept up to injure me—be it so, they have fell into the pitt, they dug for Eaton & myself. Ingham is prostrate, whilst Eaton lives in the heart of his country, & when his traducers are buried in forgetfulness, his name will be hailed

by the good & great, as one of the best & most virtuous patriots of his day. I shall expect to hear from you on receipt of this, & hope you will pardon the haste in which this has been written, and any imperfections it may have, & ascribe it to haste—remember this is not for the public it is for you—your friend

Andrew Jackson

P.S. preserve it, I keep no copy, as it is to a friend. A. J.

P.S. It would have been a source of great consolation to me to have had judge White in the Dept. of War, my whole influence was used to effect this object, it failed from the situation of his family. In Major Eaton I had a faithful & confidential friend—had it not have been for the intrigues of Calhoun, & part of my Cabinet falling into his views, & aiding him in operating on the Senate to defeat my nominations, such as Hill &c, & prevent those national measures I had recommended from being acted upon, thereby to lessen my standing in the nation, I would have had a harmonious & successful administration. I will still have it.

Who is it that are making the serious charges, that I have discarded my old friends. Who are they I have parted with, I would like to hear their names. ¿It cannot be possible that Calhouns is meant, as one of my old friends, I thought him so, but his own declarations shews he was luke warm, between Mr Adams & me—and his secrete attempt against me in the Executive Cabinet shews that altho he was my open professed friend, he was my secrete & deadly enemy—was it meant, any of my Cabinet that have resigned. There were but two, that would not have sacraficed me at any time, for their own agrandisement, & that of Calhoun. I had three friends, *disinterested high minded*, *& talented men*, *Van Buren, Eaton*, *& Barry,* These were jewels, ~~and~~ men of high honorable feelings on whom, their friend, or country might repose with safety. No country holds men of purer patriotism, or talents of higher order—particularly Van Buren, & Barry, and Major Eatons is one of the best men, with talents far above what his enemies, or many of his friends, would yield him, his talents are far above mediocrity—and I ~~add~~ repeat he is one of the best men on Earth, excelled by none, in the purity of his morales.

you have seen the *disgraceful flight of Ingham*. The scripture says, "the wicked flee, when no one pursueth."[8] he is perfectly prostrated in his own state—and the various toasts in the several states will shew you, the standing of Major Eaton—his has increased, whilst Inghams has fallen, never to rise again—The fate of all slanderers.

A. J.

N.B. you say if Mr Calhoun is a nullifier &c &c. I have positive proof of that fact, that he is, & I have this day recd. a letter from a high source So. Carolina, that he is secretely encourageing hostilities to the republic

"which in their character are not less unnatural than destructive to the union of these States, it is high time to direct (says the writer) the attention of the chief magistrate to this novel and dangerous state of things." This is the conduct of the 2nd. officer of this happy country, that he is endeavour~~ed~~ing to ~~be~~ plunge~~d~~ into a civil war, by his secrete admonitions & contrivance. If true, *I will meet the* crisis, firmly—mark me, I never state any thing not founded on proof.

ALS, The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History (mAJs). Dunlap replied on August 10 (below).

1. The Philadelphia *Pennsylvania Inquirer* was a Jackson paper. Tennessee politician Thomas Dickens Arnold (1798–1870) was defeated for Congress by Pryor Lea (1794–1879) in 1827, and again in a contested election in 1829. In the 1827 race, Arnold had published pamphlets savaging AJ's character and branding Lea and Hugh L. White as political changelings, former foes of AJ whose newfound support for him masked their opposition to Tennessee's state interests, especially in internal improvements. In contesting the 1829 results, Arnold had charged White with wielding improper influence to elect Lea (*HRRep* 32, 21st Cong., 1st sess., Serial 199). Arnold was again a candidate against Lea for election to the forthcoming Twenty-second Congress.

2. These were the extracts Alfred Balch furnished to AJ on or about June 25 (above).

3. On May 13, 1818, Calhoun had written Alabama Territory governor William Wyatt Bibb (1781–1820) that "Genl. Jackson is vested with full powers to conduct the war, in the manner which he may judge best" (*Calhoun Papers*, 2:291). In their May 1830 exchange, AJ asserted and Calhoun denied that this statement had sanctioned AJ's seizure of St. Marks and Pensacola (*Jackson Papers*, 8:256, 306–8).

4. Christopher Rankin (1788–1826) had been a Mississippi congressman from 1819 until his death.

5. Milton, *Paradise Lost*, 1.263: "Better to reign in Hell, then serve in Heav'n."

6. The Philadelphia *American Sentinel* on June 14 and the *Telegraph* on June 16 revived a charge that in 1830 Lewis had sabotaged Philadelphia congressman Daniel H. Miller's bid for reelection by spreading word that Miller's votes against Indian removal and for the Maysville Road had destroyed AJ's confidence in him (*Jackson Papers*, 8:621–24).

7. Monroe's Cabinet, which included three rival presidential aspirants in 1824, was notorious for disharmony.

8. Proverbs 28:1: "The wicked flee when no man pursueth."

From John Henry Eaton

[Newspaper controversy in June 1831 over the Eaton affair's role in the dissolution of the Cabinet harkened back to events of January 1830, when a Cabinet breakup had been narrowly averted. On June 14, the US Telegraph *charged that Ingham, Branch, and Berrien were dismissed for refusing to compel their families to socialize with the Eatons. In proof of Jackson's motive, it charged that Jackson had sent a congressman to the three back in January 1830 to order their association with Mrs. Eaton as a condition of remaining in the Cabinet. On June 17, editor Francis Blair replied in the* Globe*, denying "emphatically" that Jackson had ever issued or authorized such an ultimatum.*

The congressman, not yet named in the press, was Richard M. Johnson of Kentucky. He had met with the three secretaries together on January 27, 1830, shortly after they had each thrown large parties to which the Eatons were not invited. Jackson had then himself separately interviewed Ingham and Branch on January 29 and Berrien on January 30. The content of those discussions was now at issue.

On June 30, 1831, Johnson wrote Ingham, Branch, and Berrien from Kentucky in response to the Telegraph *charge. He denied having carried a message of social coercion from Jackson. Rather, seeing that Jackson believed that the three secretaries were intent on driving Eaton from the Cabinet, and not believing it himself, he had, with Jackson's approval, interceded as a friend to all parties to attempt a reconciliation. His proposal to the three secretaries on January 27, 1830, that they quiet the affair by admitting the Eatons to social intercourse was made, he said, on his own responsibility in the interest of "peace and friendship," not as an edict from Jackson.*

Berrien on July 7 and Ingham on July 13 (and later Branch, writing to Berrien on July 20) replied to Johnson contradicting his account. All three charged that Johnson had delivered a distinct demand from Jackson that their families visit the Eatons and invite them to their large parties. All three claimed they had indignantly repelled this effort at social dictation, and had consented to stay on in the Cabinet only after Jackson, in their subsequent private interviews, withdrew from it. Berrien had already made a similar, though briefer, statement of the episode in his June 18 letter to Eaton.

None of this correspondence had yet been published. But the Globe, *now citing Johnson as authority, continued to vehemently deny that Jackson had ever tried to force Mrs. Eaton's society onto the families of his Cabinet. On July 19 the* Telegraph *stated that it knew of the letters between Ingham, Berrien, and Johnson, and also between Eaton and Berrien, and that the* Globe*'s denials might soon require publishing them to expose the truth.]*

19. July, 1831

Sir

Here are all the papers you requested to see, except the first Letter, which was precisely a copy of that sent to Mr. Ingham & which by him was published[.] with great respect

J. H Eaton

[Endorsed by AJ:] Major Eatons papers—

ALS, NjP-Blair-Lee Papers (mAJs). Eaton enclosed correspondence including the original of Berrien's June 18 letter to him, answering Eaton's of June 17 (NjP). AJ replied to Eaton the same day (below).

To John Henry Eaton

July 19th. 1830.

I have perused the note of judge Berrien to you (Major Eaton) of the 18th. of june and I regret, as he has refered to an interview with the President, that he has not given a fair statement, that you might understand (or if for publication) the public might understand it—first then I have to state, & do it without fear of contradiction that no member of Congress was by me ever authorised to say that Judge Berrien, Mr Ingham & Branch, with their families should associate with Major Eaton & his or they should be removed, & judge Berrien on the interview I had with him Mr Ingham & Branch were well advised of this by me & to them I entered my protest against any such interference. The judge ought to have stated, for he well knew the fact; that various members of Congress, had communicated it to me, that there were a combination entered into with a foreign Lady with these Gentlemen & families to drive Major Eaton & family out of society & had appealed to me if I would suffer such indignity to myself after inviting Major Eaton into my Cabinet & he reluctantly assenting.[1] To all which I replied I surely would not, but I could not believe that these gentlemen could act such a dishonora a part having come into my Cabinet with the greatest harmony. but if I found them capable of such dishonorable conduct as combining together & with this foreign Lady for such unworthy purpose I would promptly remove them from my Cabinet. I was informed that the plan was this, the foreign Lady was to make a party & invite all the heads of Departments & families but Major Eaton. That Mr Ingham was to follow, Branch & Berrien. I was informed by members of Congress that the combination had thus been carried into effect, & again appealed to me, was I going to submit to such indignity. I assured them I would not—& sent for Mr Ingham Govr Branch & Judge Berrien, to have an interview with them. They came. I faithfully detailed the facts above communicated to me, and wish to be informed whether they had entered into the combination communicated—that if they had, the indignity was offered to me & not to major Eaton that they well knew I had solicited Major Eaton to become a member of my cabinet & he had reluctantly, yielded his assent, that they all had come in without any objections, and such a combination to drive him out of society was an insult to me which I would not suffer. They all declared they had no intention of the kind & would be the last to do any act with a view to the injury of Major Eaton & his family or lessen them in society. To which I replied, that I had too high regard for them to doubt their words—but the prediction had gone forth & the event having occurred as predicted, it gone forth to the world & the members of Congress as tho intended & its evil effects were as great as tho it had been intended, & to prevent the like again, & to promote harmony, it might be well that their parties might be given in

away not to produce such effect upon society as tho it was intended. That I had brought Major Eaton into the Cabinet & I would part with every member in it before I would him and I was determined to have harmony in my Cabinet or I would remove those that produced the want of it, and if there were any that could not harmonise with Major Eaton they had better withdraw—here Mr Ingham remarked that he could not interfere or controle his wife in her associates in society. I assured him I would be the last man in society that attempt to interfere in such matters—that it was the right of all to select their society, but all I wanted was harmony in my Cabinet, that he & all others might rest assured that I never would part with Major Eaton nor should he be drove out of my Cabinet by any combination that could or might be formed for that purpose, that I *would* remove the whole first—again it was repeated by the Gentlemen that they would be the last men who would do any act with a design, or knowledge, that it would injure Major Eaton or his family—here the matter was left. How far they have acted agreable to this pledge the people will judge—

AL draft (at July 19, 1830), DLC (38).

1. The foreign lady was Constantia Wilhelmina Vrijthoff Huygens (1772–1858), wife of Dutch minister Christiaan Diederik Emerens Johan Bangeman Huygens (1772–1857). On January 6, 1830, Mrs. Huygens threw a party to which Mrs. Eaton was not invited. The Ingham, Branch, and Berrien parties followed within a few days.

Memorandum of Interviews with John Branch, Samuel Delucenna Ingham, and John Macpherson Berrien

[On July 19 the Globe *quoted a letter received from Richard M. Johnson, saying that Jackson* "never authorized me to require social intercourse &c., &c. He always disclaimed it. I told the parties so." *Berrien, who was in Washington, wrote* Globe *editor Francis Blair for publication the same day, objecting that until the full record could be exposed, "partial and imperfect statements" of the January 27, 1830, conversation between Johnson and the three Cabinet secretaries would only produce "delusion" and "mislead the public mind." Blair retorted that his "sole object was, at once, to clear the skirts of the President of a charge which you are well aware ought not to be attached to him."*

The Globe *published this exchange on July 20, and Berrien wrote Blair the same day branding his statement "entirely misinformed." Blair replied, again invoking Johnson's "positive written declaration" and also saying that "I have before me, in the hand writing of the President, the identical paper, which he read" to the three secretaries at their interviews on January 29 and 30, 1830. Blair quoted this text to prove that Jackson had never made a demand of familial intercourse with the Eatons, and*

that Berrien knew it. Berrien replied, correcting Blair: Jackson in their interview had "disclaimed" the demand by withdrawing it, not by denying he had made it. As for the paper, "no such paper was ever read to me, or shewn to me, or spoken of to me." On July 21, Blair wrote Berrien that Jackson the day before had given him "the original memorandum which he wrote, . . . and I am now expressly authorized to state again, that in the interview referred to . . . he held in his hand and read to you the paper from which I have given the extracts, *which you say was never read, shewn or spoken of to you." This paper, Johnson's statement, and the fact that Berrien had remained in the Cabinet after the interview offered conclusive proof "that the President disclaimed any right or desire to interfere with the private associations of yourself or your family, and* that you knew it."

The Globe *published these four letters on July 22. In reply, Berrien wrote an address to the public, dated July 22 and published in the* National Intelligencer *and* Telegraph *on July 23. He included the letters he and Eaton had exchanged from June 17 to June 23, Richard M. Johnson's June 30 letter, and the responses by himself, Ingham, and Branch. Berrien's address repelled what he called "the misrepresentations of a public journal, professing to speak the language of the President of the United States, and published under his eye." Johnson, Berrien said, had delivered on January 27, 1830, an unmistakable demand from Jackson, which Jackson, evidently "awakened to a sense of the impropriety of his projected course," had then withdrawn at the January 30 interview. At that interview Jackson* "showed me no paper—spoke to me of none—intimated to me no terms which he would hereafter require." *Ingham's account, included in Berrien's publication, likewise related that Johnson had told him on January 28 that Jackson "had drawn up a paper explanatory of what he had intended and expected of us," but that at his January 29 interview Jackson "did not show me, or read, any paper on the subject." Branch, in North Carolina, also wrote subsequently on August 1 that if Jackson had authorized Blair's statement in the July 22* Globe, *"then we are at issue. No paper of the kind was ever read, or made known to me, by Gen. Jackson" (*US Telegraph, *August 5, 1831).* Niles' Weekly Register *reprinted most of the accumulated correspondence on July 30.*

*In Jackson's papers in the Library of Congress are three separate versions in his hand of a memorandum of his January 1830 interviews with Branch, Ingham, and Berrien. The first version was begun as an instruction to a third party (presumably Johnson) and then altered to address the secretaries directly. Jackson endorsed it "read to them" (*Jackson Papers, *8:56–58). The second version, appearing here, is a more polished text evidently subsequent to the first; the third version, following the second below, is an apparent further refining of its prefatory passage. The language quoted by Blair to Berrien on July 20 closely resembles that of the first version but more precisely matches that of the second.]*

Having been informed by several members of Congress that there were a combination entered into by three of ~~they~~ my heads of Departments with a foreign Lady to drive Major Eaton & his family out of society & by that means coerce me to dismiss him from my Cabinet; This has been reiterated by _____ members of Congress to me, after the plan had been adopted, (which was to ~~invite~~ make parties, first by the Foreign lady, then by Mr Ingham, Branch & Berrien, & not to invite Major Eaton & his family) They parties as reported, had been given & Major Eaton & his family not invited as had been predicted. Several members came to me and after reporting these facts, asked if I intended to permit such indignity to be offered to me unnoticed. I assured them I would not, and that I would call for explanations from ~~those Gentlemen~~ them I therefore sent and had a personal interview with those Gentlemen. ~~They I sent for them they attended.~~ I informed them of the information I had recd. of the combination, ~~by~~ from they members of Congress, and the plan having been carried into execution and I had sent for them for explanation ~~that if~~ and inquiry whether the information I had recd was correct, The following was read to them from a paper held in my hand. If so, then ~~that~~ was the course pursued by them (Mr Ingham Mr Branch & Berrien) to Major Eaton & his family were not only unjust in itself, but highly disrespectful to me & well calculated to destroy the Harmony of my Cabinet. The ground upon which, ~~I~~ this opinion is founded are substantially these. I do not claim the right to interfere in any manner in the domestic relations or personal intercourse of any member of my Cabinet, nor have I ever in any manner attempted it. But from information and my own observation on the general course of events, I am fully impressed with a belief that you & your families have, in addition to the exercise of your & their own undoubted rights in this respect taken measures to induce others to avoid intercourse with Mrs Eaton and thereby ~~sought to exclude~~ sought to exclude her from society & degrade him. It is impossible for me upon the fullest and most mature & dispasionate consideration of the subject to regard this course in any other light than a wanton disregard of my feelings & reproof of my official conduct. It is I, that without any solicitation or desire on his part called Major Eaton into my Cabinet, and it is I, that with the fullest conviction of the injustice of the imputations which as I firmly believe malice & envy have cast upon his wife continue him there. If her character is such as to justify active measures on the part of my Cabinet to exclude her from virtuous society—it is I who am responsible to the community for this alledged indignity to public morales. I will not part with Major Eaton from my Cabinet, & those of my Cabinet who cannot harmonise with him had better withdraw for harmony I must & will have.

It is vain for me to disguise the true aspect of the question, & it is not in my nature to do so if I could; nor can I consent to harbour any feelings toward those with whom I am acting daily without distinctly expressing & apprising them of those opinions. My whole life has been at variance

with such a course, and I am too old to practice it now, I must cease to respect myself when find myself capable of it; therefore have sought this interview, to assure you if there is any truth in the report that you have entered into the combination charged, to drive Major Eaton from my Cabinet, that I feel it an indignity & insult offered to myself, and is of a character that will remain hereafter to be considered of

The Gentlemen substantially replied that they would be the last men to do any act to injure the feelings or character of Major Eaton & his family, that the parties given had no such thing in view. That they could not undertake to controle their families &c &c &c. I protested against any such wish to controle society in their intercourse but ~~repeated~~ observed, that as they had disavowed any intention to wound the feelings of Major Eaton &c & I was bound to believe them—but the rumor had went forth it was believed by part of the community that it was intended to degrade Eaton &c, and the effect upon Eaton & the indignity to me in the minds that believed it were the same—and hereafter it would be well so conduct as not to give room to the world so to construe your conduct—for I had again to repeat, that having brought Major Eaton into my Cabinet I would not part with him, and any attempt to degrade him I viewed, & should continue to view, as an indignity to myself—that as all had come into my Cabinet harmoniously, & friendly, that, that, harmony must be continued—or those who could not harmonise, had better withdraw. That harmony must be maintained. They replied that nothing on their part should be done to destroy the harmony of the Cabinet. (how far these three gentlemen complied with this promise the public will judge. The above is taken from a paper held in my hand & read to them—& their reply noted with my conversation with them after the retired)

A. J.

[Endorsed by AJ:] Interview with Mr Ingham Govr. Branch & Mr Berrien—

[Endorsed by Amos Kendall:] Gen. Jackson's Statement of conversation with Messrs. Ingham, Branch & Berrien as to alledged combination against Major Eaton &c

ADS, DLC (39; 15-0067).

Having been informed by several members of Congress that there were a combination entered into by three of my ~~Cabinet~~ heads of departments with a foreign lady to drive Major Eaton & his family out of society & by that means coerce me to dismiss him from my Cabinet; This has been reiterated by _____ members of Congress to me after the plan had been adopted (which was to make parties, first by the foreign lady, then by Mr Ingham, Branch, & Berrien, & not to invite Major Eaton & his family).

They parties as reported had been given & Major Eaton & his family not invited as had been predicted. several members came to me and after reporting these facts, asked if I intended to permit such indignity to be offered to me unnoticed; I assured them I would not, and that I would call for explanations from them. I therefore sent & had an interview with those Gentlemen I informed them of the information I had recd. of the combination, from they members of congress, and the plan having been carried into execution & that I had sent for them for explanation & inquiry whether the information I had recd. was correct, when we met I made the following statement ☞[1]

AD, DLC (59; 15-0073).

1. The pointer here may correspond to a pointer AJ inserted in the first version of the memorandum, at the beginning of his statement opening the interview (*Jackson Papers*, 8:57).

From Charles Gerrit De Witt

Private.

New York City, July 20, 1831.

Dear General,

Though I do not make quite as much noise now in the political arena as some others, without being accused of vanity, I hope I may be permitted to say that, having always been your friend, I still yield to none in sincere attachment to your interest; because I am persuaded that interest is identified with the welfare and prosperity of our common country. It has been my intention for some time past to trouble you with the perusal of a line or two respecting the state of public opinion, but the fear of intruding while you were engaged in the painful though patriotic duty of reorganising your cabinet, and a strong desire to add to the proofs already in my possession the unerring tests afforded by the 4th of July, have hitherto restrained me. I will now, however, seeing the coast clear, and your own ship, ably manned, again in smooth water, undertake to submit my views.

1. Upon a comparison of facts, carefully collated for some time past from a mass of newspapers from every state in the Union, inimical and friendly, and the examination of several hundred toasts drank at public festivals on the late anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, I set it down with the utmost confidence in the accuracy of the prediction, that, if your life is spared, you will be again sworn in as President of the United States on the 4th of March 1833. I cannot, certainly, be mistaken in the sentiments of Maine, New-Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, the two Carolinas, and Georgia—states about which we have, since the adjournment of Congress, heard so many wild calculations in a certain treacherous quarter. I believe that no man living can deprive you of the

support which the *people* of these states will give you in the fall of 1832, in spite of antimasonry, nullification, and Clayism, jointly or severally. Of the others in the west, my means of judging are not so full and satisfactory; but, in the name of Heaven, why should they and Alabama and Louisiana desert you? They would be far worse off than their wooden nutmeg editors strive to persuade them they now are under your administration, if they had Clay or Calhoun to rule over them; for these intriguers, not having the confidence of the great body of the people, must necessarily come in, (if ever they do,) under the management of politicians, and, therefore, will be bound to pursue a narrow, one-sided policy, adverse to the general welfare, for the sake of gratifying these politicians. As for the noise which the hired slanderers of the Coalition, ~~lead~~ led on by that snake in the grass, Duff Green, have made about "the explosion" of your cabinet, as they term it, you may rest assured it is vox et preterea nihil.[1] I heard one of them talking the other day with a plain farmer in the midst of his cornfield, repeating a free version of the stale calumnies connected with the name of Mrs. Eaton, and endeavoring to convince the good man that it was an awful thing for Secretaries to resign. He put up his impious hands—opened wide his felonious eyes—and spoke as though the world was shortly coming to an end. But the farmer saw into his basket. He lit his pipe—smiled—and said, he "took it to be the case with President Jackson pretty much as it was with him. When I hire hands to work for me and they dont please altogether, I pay them off and get others. Now, there is nothing uncommon in this; it happens every day; it dont injure the crop or break up business; every thing turns out well in the end. I have no fear but that the General will do what is right; and as to all your talk about the influence of women, the danger of dividing the republican party and splitting about the old man's successor, we dont waste a thought upon it. That is the mere slang of printers and politicians by trade. We will attend to the question of succession in due time; meanwhile, I would advise you for your comfort to be easy; it is useless to think of making a rumpus in the land already, for the farmers are unwilling to be always in hot water about candidates for office. Let the President alone—he is paying off the public debt." This dose of honest common sense settled the false loon on his lees, and he strode out of the field like a detected thief. It is a fair sample, according to the best of my judgment, of the feeling which predominates in the bulwark of the nation.

2. I would not now give a pipe of tobacco for John C. Calhoun's "claims" upon the Presidency, or for his friend, the late Secretary of the Treasury's reputation. They have both committed political suicide, and all the nostrums that nullification or "an over-heated imagination" can administer, will not restore them to the places they once held in the public esteem.[2] What an instructive lesson does their downfal afford, to such as hereafter may foolishly attempt to make their private political griefs a subject of public political commiseration! They seem to have forgotten, that, comparatively speaking, it is of no consequence at all to the nation

what becomes of John C. Calhoun or Samuel D. Ingham, any more than of John Doe or Richard Roe. The *people*—I do not include the politicians—only want a man at the helm who will steer straight, and do his best to keep the ship upon the republican tack; and they would, if they could, always prefer one who had stood by his country in the hour of danger, and defended it from the assaults of a foreign foe.

3. Never was mortal more disappointed than I have been in the ingrate, Duff Green. I thought you had no better friend on the face of the earth, and purposely allowed him to introduce me to you on the opening of the session in 1829. I was intimate with him—frequented his house—and did all that lay in my power to help him along. Nay, when several of our delegation scrupled to vote for him last February as printer for the next Congress, I labored to remove their objections—though I will now go so far as to say, that if I had used even moderate exertions, I believe I could have defeated his election. What a pity it is we cannot sometimes foresee what is to happen! He, too, like Mr. Calhoun, egregiously overrates himself, and current events are daily beating the mortifying truth into his head. I have seen it stated more than once in the very few papers which echo the balderdash of the Telegraph, that "Gen. Jackson could not have succeeded against Mr. Adams without the aid of the Vice-President's influence, and that he cannot be re-elected if the same aid be withheld." Miserable delusion! I speak from a thorough knowledge of the fact in this state when I declare, that during the ever-memorable campaign which terminated in your elevation to the Presidency, not one voter in a hundred thought of John C. Calhoun. Our eyes were fixed exclusively upon you. The cries were for "Old Hickory"—for "Gen. Jackson"—"Down with the Coalition"—and in all the documents and essays printed and published in pamphlets and newspapers, allusion was only made to your virtues and the vices of Adams and Clay. For my own part, though I mixed daily with politicians from 1826 to 1829, and made extraordinary exertions to promote your success, I do not recollect to have heard any one, on any occasion, with a word pro or con respecting the candidate for the Vice-Presidency. You could have carried in with you just as well Edward Livingston or Levi Woodbury, or any other respectable man of talents.

But, my dear General, I must break off for fear of tiring your patience. Let me only add, that, though not now connected as an editor with the press, I am not weary of well doing in the good cause. My paper in Ulster still circulates under the auspices of a gentleman good and true, and most of my leisure moments are devoted to the preparing of articles for the N. Y. Courier & Enquirer. The strictures in that paper on McDuffie's late dinner speech in Charleston, were from my pen.[3]

May God bless and preserve you, and sustain you as usual in the discharge of your arduous duties.

Ch: G. De Witt.
No. 65 Barclay Street.

P.S. My compliments and hearty good wishes to my friend A. Jackson Junr.

C. G. D.W.

ALS, DLC (39). De Witt (1789–1839) was a lawyer and a one-term member from New York of the recently concluded Twenty-first Congress. Under the heading "Extract of a letter," the Washington *Globe* printed the bulk of this letter on August 17, 1831, retaining its political commentary but masking the identities of writer and recipient by omitting the salutation and closing and the heading "private," deleting telltale personal passages, and changing the references to AJ from second person to third.

1. Latin for "a voice and nothing more."

2. Writing to Ingham on July 7 (above), Nicholas Trist had belittled his charge of an assassination plot as "the workings of an over-excited imagination."

3. De Witt had edited and published the Kingston, N.Y., *Ulster Sentinel*, now under William Culley. Editorials in the *Morning Courier and New-York Enquirer* on June 24 and 30 censured George McDuffie's May 19 nullification speech at Charleston.

To James Gadsden

(Private)

July 21rst 1831—

My Dear Gadsden

I have recd. your private and confidential letter of the 11th. june Last, and have this day appointed you assistant Engineer, in the room of Genl Barnard who has resigned, & your commission ~~is to take effect~~ will commence on the 10th. of august next, the Day on which the Genls resignation is accepted to take effect. you will therefore be preparing to report yourself here, as soon after you receive your commission as you conveniently can.

I am happy your letter reached me at the time it did, as I assure you, it affords me pleasure to give you this appointment, ~~that~~ as it will bring you near me—and also an opportunity to fill the vacancy with talents equal to those of the former incumbent. The commission will be forwarded as soon as it made out[.] yrs &c &c

A. J.

ALS draft, DLC (39). Simon Bernard had tendered his resignation to AJ on July 8 (18-0162). On July 28, AJ instructed Taney to make out Gadsden's commission as assistant engineer and send it to Tallahassee (DNA-RG 107, M222-30). Gadsden's appointment took effect August 10.

From Alfred Balch

Louisville Ky. 21st. July 1831—

My Dear Sir,

In passing from Washington to this place, I enjoyed the oppry. of seeing many persons from all parts of the country & more especially from Virginia, thro which state, I travelled for four hundred miles. I am entirely satisfied that the old Dominion remains true to our cause, the secret efforts of Govr Floyd to the contrary notwithstanding. Nevertheless, I feel my self bound by my regard for your person & interests to say, that those who are most attached to you, are the most distressed at the late events at Washington. Those scenes however will not be re-acted. Great efforts have been made, to induce the people to believe that there exists at Washington "a power behind the throne greater than the throne itself."[1] This is always the resort of cunning and unprincipled adversaries. It is my most decided opinion that Major Lewis should set up an establishment for himself—should until the close of the next session of Congress disconnect himself from you & see you only in a ceremonious manner. It is also my opinion that Mr Kendall should attend *only* to the duties of his office & let you wholly alone and that Dr Jones should be exclusively employed in sorting letters. Let me not be misunderstood. I interfere with no mans friendships or emoluments. Let these gentlemen serve the country. But, let them also suppress the clamour made by the public & particularly by thousands of your own *jealous* friends, by leaving you for a season. I pray My Dear Genl, most earnestly and affectionately that this course may be instantly adopted. In passing thro the Presidents house and noting the state of matters there, I perceived the want of a presiding Lady in the establishment. The presence of ladies will prevent intrusions, to which I perceive that you are exceedingly liable. It is true Mr Jefferson had no females with him but it must be recollected that Washington was a small place when he was in office and that for every *politician* then we have 20 now.

As Woodbury has but little of the Suaviter in modo,[2] Barry must take a new position next winter so that he will be able to see our friends in Congress and gratify their vanity by saying pleasant things to them & giving them every now & then a Bite. The shortest road to the hearts of half mankind is down their throats. All experience proves this remark to be true. The battle next winter will be hot enough. It becomes us to prepare for it by putting our friends in Congress in *training*. Calhoun is one of the worst of enemies. He is as restless as a guilty mans soul. His personal affections are given to all the ignorant and enthusiastic. It is high time that his views should be developed and his real character understood by our friends. He is a spy in our camp and is worse than our open & decided enemies. The time will soon come when we shall make him wish he had never been born.

Our true policy now is to effect a union of action of all the *true* hearted, throughout the country and this will be best effected by a union of our *real* friends in Congress next winter. Let us clear our decks for actions. prepare our friends at Head quarters to move in a solid column. and there will not be the slightest danger. The policy of Calhoun is to create interruptions amongst ourselves. The game of McClean & Clay is to foment them. We must counteract these tactics & no longer suffer the glory of the measures of the admn to be obscurd by the clouds of our petty discontents.

One great object of Calh. in publishing his "Book" was to call off the attention of the people from the masterly negotiations of the admn with foreign powers, and when ~~a convention~~ an arrangment is made with France, he will play the same game. Next winter he will have some new plot—attempt some new scheme, in which his cold-blooded selfishness will predominate over his regard, (if any he has) for the interests of the country. Mark it! you will see this prophecy verified as sure as you live.

When Eaton and his wife arrive I shall take such steps as will be most judicious. I cannot beleive that this poor fellows difficulties will again interrupt the public It is impossible for me to suppose that Donelson & his wife will be absent from you more than 5 or 6 weeks longer. After I see him I will write you. Macomb & his wife sent a message by me to him & her which will have a prevailing influence upon their minds[3] In a word I go for you & the cause of Liberty & the country with all my heart & soul my mind & strength.

I must beg that the communication which I laid before you be handed over immediately to the atto Genl with a notice to Macomb so that he may deliver his documents. The settlement of this matter, whether one way or the other is of much importance to me & one of your best friends in Ten. Delicacy will not permit me to state, standing as I do in my present relation towards you, the causes why an immediate decission is so necessary.[4] Very sincerely yours

Alfred Balch.

P.S. Please give my best regards to Trist, whose single heartedness and perfectly pure motives in all that he does entitle him to the confidence of all men of honor.

Also to Earl the very soul of goodness and honor. Please tell him that I shall write him in a few days after I reach home.

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr Balch—Louisville on Politics—A. J

ALS, DLC (39).

1. William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, describing the Earl of Bute in the House of Lords, March 2, 1770.

2. Latin for "gentle in manner."

3. Alexander Macomb's wife, Harriet Balch Wilson Macomb (1783–1869), was Balch's sister.

4. Balch had composed an argument in support of Macomb's retroactive claim for the pay and emoluments of a major general from 1821 to 1828, when he had held that rank by brevet while serving as Army chief engineer. Taney tendered AJ a legal opinion averse to the claim on August 5, and AJ concurred on August 6. Macomb subsequently appealed to Congress (*SDoc* 12, 22d Cong., 2d sess., Serial 230).

From Anthony Butler

Mexico 22. July 1831.
9 o'clock p.m.

My dear Sir,

The Mail is closing and I have but five minutes to write you. The rumor is just abroad that a Grito has been given in the South for Bravo, Santa Ana, Teran and Alvarez against Bustamente and the intrusive Government as it is called.[1] If it be true the present Administration must go down before such a Coalition, and I fear that it is. The truth cannot be known untill tomorrow morning, for the Courier is kept close by the Government for tonight at least: In my last I stated that we had strong indications of the Civil War being very soon renewed, and although Bravo, has been commanding the Army and fighting in favor of the present Administration; those who knew him best, said that it was a War to get clear of Guerrero, who had formerly put Bravo down, and that so soon as he had accomplished that object he would set up for himself—all his former conduct I think justifies the opinion. He has been always a malcontent and was the leader in the first attempt made against the Government of President Victoria; although himself actual Vice President at the time; was surrounded by Guerrero at Tulancingo, captured tried & banished remained in the United States a little more than 12 months, was pardoned by Guerrero after he became president, and repaid the Act by pursuing him to death.[2] He has never been in Mexico since my location here, but I am told is an incessant calumniator of our people & Government—most of the other Mexicans who have visited our Country return its warm friends and eulogists.

I shall write you the instant I can get the facts connected with this affair, was Mr. Alaman in Mexico I could have them in half an hour, but he has not returned from his excursion Westward. Very truly and respectfully Dr. Sir your most obedt Servt.

A. Butler

[Endorsed by AJ:] recd. August 16th. 1831—Col Butler—Mexico—

ALS, DLC (39; 18-0244). AJ replied on August 17 (below).

1. A grito is a call or shout, in this context a rallying cry. Juan Álvarez (1790–1867) was a Mexican general who had previously allied with Vicente Guerrero against Bustamante.

2. In 1827, then Mexican vice-president Nicolás Bravo had headed an uprising at Tulancingo against President Guadalupe Victoria (1786–1843), which was suppressed by forces under Guerrero. Bravo was exiled but later pardoned by Guerrero, then president, in 1829. Bravo sided with Bustamante against Guerrero in 1830 and defeated him in battle in January 1831. Guerrero was executed in February.

To Martin Van Buren

(Private)

Washington July 23rd. 1831—

My dear Sir,

your kind letter of the 16th. has been recd. & this day I intended to give it an answer; but just as I sat down, before sermon, the Southern mail brought me the resignation of Mr Frost atto. for the District of So Carolina, assigning as a reason therefor, that two men, not regular merchants, had imported some goods, gave their bond for the duty, and refused payment, on the ground that the Tariff was unconstitutional, therefore the bond void. The Collector handed over the bond to Mr Frost for suit, and he, refusing to bring it, has tendered his resignation. This subject has engrossed my hours that I intended to employ in answering your letter. The question first that occurred to me, was, to direct an agent to institute the suit, refuse his resignation, & impeach him for neglect of duty—but the better I think will be to accept his resignation, appoint another, and send instructions to bring the suit, & prosecute it with energy—in the mean time send on a private agent to look & enquire, and take the necessary testimony to expose all who are engaged in this act of intended Treason against our Government. Doctor Davis writes me, Mr Calhoun is at the bottom of this thing, it is the ground & plan he advocated here, the two last sessions of Congress. The *union shall be preserved*.[1]

I have conversed with Mr Livingston on the subject of the permission you ask—it will be granted, & incorporated in your instructions.[2]

We all thought here that Berrien was retiring like a Gentleman—but it appears that birds of a feather flock together, & if ever he was a man of truth, or honour, his evil communications has corrupted his morales, for with the exception of Ingham, he is as regardless of truth as any other in society. Blair & him has broke a lance at each other—tomorrows Globe will reply to him.[3] Berrien has pressed himself into this business, expecting to make the Issue between the Tellegraph & Rh. Johnston & become a witness, & a good one he would be, if he had not destroyed his own credit, but Blair keeps him as the principle, & makes Johnston his Berriens witness, he having first introduced him. Berrien, if I judge right, will be sorry for his course before he gets clear of it. Ingham is prostrate in Pennsylvania, and Branch and Berrien will follow him. Branch would, it is said, have been beaten by Bynum, but Bynum, on the application of

mutual friends withdrew, to save Branch, by electing him, & a man who would beg an election, is a fit coadjutor for ~~Brangh~~ Ingham & Berrien who have combined to certify, or swear, for each other, as occasion may require. I have your likeness hung up in my room, & it appears to look, & smile upon me as I write. But this exposure does not sit well with Duff Green & Co. with my respects to your sons, if with you, & Col Hamilton & family, believe me your friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (18-0255). Van Buren replied on July 29 (below). AJ's mention of sermon and of the next day's (Monday's) *Globe* suggest that he may have mistaken the date, and that both this letter and the one following to James A. Hamilton, which enclosed it, were really written on Sunday, July 24.

1. Eli Simpson Davis was an Abbeville, S.C., physician and state legislator. Charleston lawyers Isaac Edward Holmes (1796–1867) and Alexander Mazyck (1801–1894) had imported some English woollens, given bond for the payment of duties, and then refused to pay, with the intent of provoking a judicial test of the constitutionality of the protective tariff. On July 18, Edward Frost (1801–1868), whom AJ had appointed U.S. district attorney in February, had resigned rather than bring suit to uphold a tariff he believed "unconstitutional and greatly injurious" to South Carolina (DNA-RG 59, M179-70). On July 25 AJ appointed Robert Budd Gilchrist (1796–1856) to replace Frost, and Livingston instructed him in AJ's name to bring suit on the bonds "without any delay" and also to report whether it was "the design of the parties" to submit to an adverse ruling or to follow it with "*concerted resistance* to the operation of the law" (DNA-RG 59, M40-22). James A. Hamilton wrote AJ about the case on July 28 (below). The customs collector at Charleston was James Reid Pringle (1782–1840), an opponent of nullification.

2. As requested by Van Buren, Livingston's instructions on August 10 gave him leave to travel in Europe whenever absence from London would not injure his mission (DNA-RG 59, M77-73).

3. The *Globe* on July 25 printed Berrien's address and promised to prove "from a mass of circumstances, in addition to Col. Johnson's positive testimony, that the charge which Messrs. Berrien, Branch and Ingham now urge against the President, is *utterly unfounded*."

To James Alexander Hamilton

Washington July 23rd. 1831

Mr Dr Sir

your letter of the 17th. has been some days received, but really I have not had time to reply to it.

I am fearful that it will not be in my power to meet Mr Van Buren in Newyork before he departs for England. nothing could afford me more pleasure than to meet him there, but the Nullifiers have commenced operations in charleston, the atto. for the District has resigned rather than commence suit on ~~the~~ a revenue bond, & I am determined to meet the crisis, with deliberation & energy. I will have testimony that will shew who are the ringleaders of this wicked Plott, if ringleaders there be.

I hope that Mr McLane will be with you when this reaches you.

If I cannot go on to meet Mr. V. B. before he sails, I will be much gratified to see you here the time you have said, as we have been disappointed in your last promised visit—come on with Mr McLane, and say to him I am very anxious to see him here in possession of the Treasury Department.

With a tender of my respects to your amiable family, & to Mr McLane & his. I am very respectfully your friend

Andrew Jackson

P.S. deliver the enclosed to Mr. V. Buren Late Sec. of State—

ALS, NN (18-0248). Hamilton *Reminiscences*, p. 226. Hamilton replied on July 28 (below).

From James Booker Gardiner

Tiffin, Ohio, July 24th 1831.

Respected Sir,

I have the honor to transmit, herewith, the Convention and Agreement, concluded on the 20th instant, with the mixed Band of Seneca and Shawnee Indians at Lewistown, for the cession of the lands held by them in this State.

I am in hopes to be able, in a few days, to conclude an Agreement with the Shawnees, for the cession of their large Reservation at Wapaghkonetta. The intervention of their wheat harvest, alone, prevented a "*treaty*" from being held last week.

Appearances are now favourable to the extinguishment *of the whole* Indian title in the State of Ohio, in the course of the present summer and ensuing fall, on terms highly satisfactory to the Indians, and in conformity with the policy of the General Government. I have the honor to be, With sentiments of the highest respect, Your mo. Obt. Servt.

James B. Gardiner,
Special Commissioner, &c.

ALS, DNA-RG 46 (18-0265). Gardiner concluded cession and removal treaties with the Lewistown Senecas and Shawnees on July 20, the Wapaghkonetta and Hog Creek Shawnees on August 8, and the Ohio Ottawas on August 30. A Shawnee delegation protested the August 8 treaty to AJ on August 22 (below). All three treaties were submitted to the Senate in January 1832, confirmed by the Senate on April 4, and proclaimed on April 6.

To Edward Livingston

July 25th. 1831—

The President with his respects to the Secretary of State, & returns to him Col A. Butlers confidential letter, and calls his attention to that part of it marked, ☞—& requests him to take an early occasion to speak to Mr Muntoya on the subject—it may have a good effect. The President had instructed Mr Van Buren to give the permission asked for. The President requests your attention so far as to see that it has been given, if not please write him forth with, & give it—[1]

AN, DNA-RG 59 (M179-70). The letter AJ returned was Anthony Butler's of May 25 (above). AJ had put a pointer on Butler's paragraph suggesting that Mexican chargé Montoya be told of American displeasure with his government.

1. Butler had requested a few weeks' absence to restore his health. State Department clerk Daniel Brent wrote him granting it the next day, July 26 (*HRDoc* 351, 25th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 80–81, Serial 332).

To Martin Van Buren

Washington july 25th. 1831

My Dr Sir

The enclosed has this moment reached me, under cover of one to me from Mr John Randolph of Roanoke, with the request, that I should forward it to you; I do this with much pleasure[1]

Mr. Randolph speaks in the highest terms of praise of the manner in which you retired from office—he says your course has been "manly & judicious."

The intelligence from Mr McLane is that he will embark the 22nd june or 1rst. of july. I hope he may be with you when this reaches you.

you will have seen the length breadth, and caliber, of the trio, three ex secretaries, who profess great sensibility, & would at the least hint have resigned; but from their own shewing clung to office until dismissed by me. They have proved by their own shewing, that I ought to have had a witness present whenever they approached me, to have guarded me against their base falshoods, & slanders. I had a hope that Berrien would have retired like a Gentleman—but I fear he is a stranger to what constitutes one, as much as he is to truth. They are a happy trio, and worthy of each other. Berrien found Ingham prostrate, & he thought like Duff Green that he could with his mighty mind & with Ingham & Branch for witnesses raise him again—but if he does not regret his voluntary intrusion upon the public before he is done with it, I am much mistaken; Blare has got him on the hip, & he will destroy him, before he lets go the hold.

Let me hear from you, and any idea that may occur to you, worthy to be presented to congress, suggest it to me, and believe me your friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (18-0269). Van Buren replied on July 29 (below).

1. John Randolph's June 6 letter to AJ (above) enclosed a June 3 letter to Van Buren, praising his political course (Van Buren Papers, DLC).

From Samuel Delucenna Ingham

New Hope, July 26, 1831.

Sir:

I received on the 13th instant, a letter from Mr. Trist, of the 7th, post-marked the 9th, purporting to be written by your direction, in answer to mine of the 30th ult. The same mail also brought me the Globe of the 11th, containing, in addition to the letter of Mr. Trist, an accompanying *expose* of the relations heretofore existing between you and myself, connecting the matter of this correspondence with circumstances alleged to have occurred long antecedent to the date fixed by me for the origin of the feelings which have led to it. This *expose* bears the impress of your authority, not only in the disclosure of topics, which could only be known to yourself, but in a letter from your own desk, used to give stronger color of probability to the points insisted upon throughout the article.[1] I cannot possibly do you injustice under these circumstances, in referring to it as a contemporaneous exposition of your sentiments and feelings, and using the light it furnishes to aid me in penetrating the mysterious course of proceeding which has been directed against me, and still seeks to destroy my reputation—the only inheritance I expect to bequeath to my children. Thus impressed, I may feel it to be necessary to address you with more freedom than fastidious minds, differently circumstanced, might deem compatible with a proper respect for the Chief Magistrate; but when such shall have imagined themselves in my situation, they will then only be able to appreciate my feelings, and judge correctly of this resort to the right of self-defence. I am perfectly aware of the disadvantages of my position in such a controversy; I have not a numerous body of persons impelled, or prompted by interest or fear, to applaud whatever I may say or do. My reliance is wholly of a different character; I have no agent or instrument at command, except pen, ink, and paper; no power but that which is derived from truth, addressed to intelligence and virtue; and no claim to confidence, but in my own humble character, and the success of the demonstration I shall be able to give of all that I may attempt to maintain. I have, however, a better opinion of mankind than to attribute to the mass of those who may be considered as dependent on you, a disposition to advance their interest by means

discreditable to their integrity—many of them are known to me to be incapable of such a purpose. Be this as it may, the history of these events will outlive your official power, and at the period which I deem most desirable for the impress of a good name, there will be no motive to do injustice to mine. I have never seen an honest appeal, in a good cause, made in vain to the disinterested judgment of the American community; and forced, against my will, into a conflict where I have no choice but to sink under an oppressive hostility, or use the means in my power for my own defence, I must meet the duty at whatever hazard.

It distinctly appears, by the *expose* to which I have alluded, that you have now declared an unrelenting war against me, by assailing my honor and integrity from the beginning of my official connexion with your administration down to the date of your last public notice of my name. It is the purpose of this communication, which, to my regret, has been delayed by indisposition, to review the several imputations and charges thus promulgated, and conclude with a distinct reply to your letter of the 7th instant, by Mr. Trist.

These imputations and charges will be found embodied in the following syllabus of your *expose*: It is therein alleged, that I accepted the appointment of Secretary of the Treasury with a full knowledge that Major Eaton was to be my colleague, and no sooner *was my commission safely in my pocket, than I joined Mr. Calhoun's friends to drive Major Eaton out of the cabinet*. That I, in effect, told you, that you had associated in your counsels an individual who was a blot upon your administration. That you thought fit to overlook *the implied insult* offered to yourself, and sought only to reconcile the difficulty in your cabinet. It was made ostensibly, by those originating it, altogether an affair of the females of their families. It was said that, with regard to Major Eaton, they entertained the best feeling, and could unite. *This was all you required*. At the succeeding session of Congres, *meetings of the friends* of Mr. Calhoun took place, with a view of addressing you to remove Maj. Eaton, and *Van Buren was denounced—arrangements were made in Congress to embarrass the measures of the administration in that body. The Calhoun Telegraph* and *Ingham Sentinel evinced their disaffection*. The appointment of Baldwin was denounced in advance. Remote editors, as has been proved, *were sounded*, in the hope of bringing them out in *opposition to your re-election*; and, finally, *Mr. Calhoun came out with a horrible plot*. When *the issue was made with yourself*, you *found your cabinet divided*, and *an entire re-organization was determined on*. Notwithstanding you believed that I had *taken sides with your adversaries*, you *treated me with kindness to the last*, and gave me *credit for my capacity and fidelity*. Being the representative of Pennsylvania, I was entitled to respect. Grateful to Pennsylvania for your election, you were unwilling to mortify her by letting her suppose that you wished to put a mark of disgrace upon me, by desiring me to retire from the cabinet. You, therefore, offered me a posi-

tion quite equal to my deserts—but I thought my *interests and ambition would be better promoted by a warfare on you*, and sedulously sought some pretext on which to found it. As an evidence of my seeking such a pretext, I took exception to the form of an address in a note on business, in which you *designated me as "Acting Secretary of the Treasury."* That, failing in this, I *sought in another quarter some ground of quarrel to carry with me to Pennsylvania*, and, as a justification of the hostility I meant to wage, I *wrote Mr. Barry an angry letter*, telling him that I had heard one of his assistants had said that the Department possessed a certain bond, which would be held in terrorem to keep me quiet. That, not being able to make any thing out of this correspondence, I dropped it, but remained at Washington, and kept up such an intercourse with the editor of the Telegraph, that Major Eaton felt assured I was the prompter of the scurrilous attacks on his wife, for which he felt it due to himself to make a demand of Mr. Berrien and myself, to know whether we authorized the statement in that print. That, when called upon, I refused to disavow, and added insult, and when threatened with personal violence, instead of appealing to the civil authority, I called in aid certain persons, and became myself a *threatener of the peace*. That I had now accomplished my purpose, and made a pretext for something like a justification in my meditated opposition to the President on my return to Pennsylvania. That I made an outcry about a conspiracy, and sought to involve the *friends of the President* in it, as accessaries. The *expose* concludes with a declaration that it will be seen *what proof I will be able to bring in support of my charges*, and it will probably turn out, like Mr. *Calhoun's plot, of which it may be considered an act*; adding, that it will be susceptible of no proof, and that the public must take denials for confession.[2]—It will be perceived that these allegations purport to give a concatination of events, commencing with my official connexion with the administration, and terminating with the day of my departure from the seat of Government.

It cannot be doubted, that it was intended by you to connect me with all the transactions referred to in this document; any other conclusion must be founded on the extravagant supposition that I was thus to be held responsible for the acts of others, in which I had not even an implied agency. I, therefore, have a right to regard this expose as avowedly made for the purpose of presenting to the public eye the series of offences which I am alleged to have committed, that have led to the embarrassments of your administration, and the final dissolution of your cabinet. It may be proper, however, to observe, that I have framed in my own mind a division of the matter of this discussion into two parts, which may be designated by the terms *official* and *unofficial*. As to the former branch, regarding my duty to the country always paramount, and its interests as requiring that a proper confidence in relation to matters within the pale of the Executive councils should be inviolably maintained as long as it may be even tacitly enjoined by the Chief Magistrate, I shall not advert

to such matters except when they have been introduced by you, and then found in the papers before me. As respects unofficial transactions, I shall notice at this time only a small part of what lies at my disposal, and none not immediately connected with the subjects referred to in your expose. With these remarks, I proceed to the unpleasant task of defending my character against the aspersions attempted to be cast upon it by the Chief Magistrate of the United States. This has been irresistably forced upon me at the moment of my retirement from public service, and when, satiated with its enjoyments and fortified by vivid experience against its allurements, I had fondly cherished the hope of spending the remainder of my days in the quiet of domestic life, out of the reach of the disturbing conflicts of political controversy.

I perceive, in the first of the alleged incidents of your expose, the bane which has poisoned the cup of your happiness; and which, being thus spread before the public, must tarnish the page of your history, while history continues to carry to future ages a true account of the acts of public men. Having been, for the last two years, a close, and, for the most part, a silent observer of the actors in the various scenes of the great drama of State, in which you were the chief character, I have carefully studied, not only your own, but the characters of those around you; and cannot easily be mistaken in the considerations which characterized your leading unofficial acts, and their bearing on the public interests. Much less could I be mistaken in the facts which are now made the ground work of your imputations against me, and the evidence of discord which induced the determination to reorganize your Cabinet. I hesitate not to say, in the face of all who are implicated; in the face of the world, nay, in the face of *Heaven*, that every allegation made, intended, or tending to connect me in any one of your long list of incidents, with a design to insult you, or embarrass your administration, or with any other of the imputed designs, is destitute of the shadow, or shade of truth. I might close this part of this communication here, by insisting, as I have a right to do, upon the production of the proofs of these imputed plots and conspiracies, and of my agency in them, or that, as an act of sheer justice, the charges should be withdrawn as openly as they have been made. But I cannot permit myself to rest upon this ground alone, however solid and immoveable it must be. I must, therefore, call your attention to some of the most prominent points, and demand the proofs more specifically. On what ground am I charged with having "no sooner than I got the commission safe in my pocket, joined Mr. Calhoun's friends in the effort to drive Major Eaton out of the Cabinet?" I ask where is the evidence that Mr. Calhoun had any class of friends who were not as devotedly your friends; or that any object was entertained, which could be beneficial to him and injurious to you? Or that any persons under that designation, joined to drive Major Eaton out of the Cabinet? And, lastly, where is the evidence, if such a plot existed, that I was privy to, or an actor in it? If the isolated circumstance

of the refusal of my family, with my approbation, to associate with that of Major Eaton, be deemed evidence of this charge, I freely admit that fact; but you perfectly well know, whatever appearance circumstances now compel you to give it, that the sole cause for this refusal was based in the belief of the society in which she had always lived, as to the character of his wife, and not in any feeling of hostility or even unkindness to him. It was, however, known to me, that two or three gentlemen whom I had never heard designated by their personal attachment to any political man other than yourself, and who were known to be among your best friends, did remonstrate to you against the appointment of Major Eaton to a seat in your Cabinet; and I also heard that they cotemporaneously, or at least two of them, made known to him all they had said to you. Their names are known to you, and they can bear testimony to this fact. Two of these gentlemen, the only ones of whose purpose I had any knowledge at the time, will, if their memories serve, for I know them to be incapable of misrepresentation, testify, that so far from encouraging their views, I endeavored to reconcile them to the appointment of Maj. Eaton. I will not now bring their names before the public, but will, if desired, furnish them to you, that you may satisfy yourself of the flagrant injustice you have done me in this respect. But, in addition to this, what motive had I to desire to drive Major Eaton out of the Cabinet? We had been for several years, personally intimate and friendly. I had formed a favorable opinion of his disposition and general character; and, notwithstanding all that has occurred, my opinion, as to these qualities at that time, is unchanged. In the absence of motive, in the absence of facts and circumstances, nay, in the face of facts now tendered to you, what is there in the relation between the highest officer of the Government and the humblest citizen which can justly preclude the latter from the right of demanding that a charge so injurious to him shall be either proved or retracted? It should now be understood that this charge, thus shown to be a mere phantom, is made the "head and front of my offending," and the main point upon which my reputation is assailed. You have professed to regard my conduct in this particular, as bearing an "implied insult" to yourself; which imagined insult has been fostered in your breast up to the present moment; and constantly cherished, with its predisposing influence to give form and substance to every other shadow which jealousy and suspicion could contrive, or credulity could be prevailed upon to embrace.

What are these shadows which have been thus embodied? "*At the succeeding session Mr. Calhoun's friends held meetings for the purpose of addressing you to remove Maj. Eaton.*"—Three things are necessary to be proved to maintain this charge and bring it home to me. 1st. That Mr. Calhoun had a class of friends distinct from yours. 2d. That they held such meetings, And, 3d. That I was privy to, and gave aid or countenance to the measure.[3] As to the first, I know of no such class. As to the second, I know of no such meeting. And thirdly, I, of course, could have given it

no aid or countenance. If, however, there was such a meeting, its character and objects must be subjects for proof; and if it did address you, the names must show that it would seem only to have been a conspiracy of your own friends to persuade your head in opposition to your heart. Be this as it may, you have my denial of all knowledge of it; and my demand for proof on this point cannot be evaded.

Then *"Mr. Van Buren was denounced"!* When? In what manner? And by whom? And how am I responsible for it? It is true I did not enter into the views of those who were generally supposed to constitute your confidential political council, by exerting myself to promote him for the succession; nor did I follow the supposed changes in your mind, as to the propriety of using your power to promote the election of your successor; but I gave to Mr. Van Buren a fair and just support in all his official acts, which were presented for my cooperation; nor have his personal friends the slightest ground to complain of my treatment to them. I cannot, however, be responsible for what others said of him; my relation to you or to him, did not require that I should bear so unreasonable a burden; nor was it your custom to hold him, or any other of your friends, accountable for the denunciations against me, which were so carefully laid on your table day after day. If such a rule had been adopted, it ought, at least, to have been made known, that each might understand what was required, and have the opportunity of sharing its benefits.

The next charge in order is thus announced: "*Arrangements were made in Congress to embarrass the measures of the administration in that body.*" I beg leave to require, as a matter of obvious justice, that the particular object of these imputed arrangements be specified; by whom they were made; and what motive had the alleged actors to embarrass the administration? And, lastly, at what point was I connected with them, what act of this nature was done, or advice given by me, and what motive could I have had for embarrassing the measures of the administration with which I was connected? It does not belong to the human mind to act without motive;—even jealousy itself will not believe all the evil it hears of the object of its suspicions, unless the evidence be corroborated by the appearance of some rational motive to control their actions. In this case, I can imagine none. It remains, therefore, for you to show how this charge can be made to reach me. Here I leave it with my unqualified denial, whatever form or shape it may assume.

"*The Calhoun Telegraph and Ingham Sentinel evinced their disaffection.*" Again I demand the evidence. Let the columns of these papers be examined for the fact of their disaffection. The former was deemed the paper of the Administration, and the only article which, up to that period, I have heard of having been ascribed to such a feeling, the editor says was dictated, in substance, from your own lips, and approved in form by you before publication. As to the latter, I have had no political correspondence with its editors from the time of my appointment to that of my removal.

Those gentlemen (and none who know them will doubt their word) will bear me out in this declaration. I admit that I regard them as my personal friends. They have long conducted, in the capital of Pennsylvania, the leading paper of the political party with which I have always been connected. They are men of tried moral and political integrity. Had I been engaged in any of the purposes thus attributed to me, it is scarcely possible that I should not have corresponded with them, and some others of their editorial brethren in Pennsylvania, or elsewhere, on these subjects. All are now at liberty to publish whatever I have written in respect to this or any other matter contained in your charges.[4]

Next: *"The appointment of Mr. Baldwin was denounced."* This from *you* is most unexpected, to whom it must be well known that, in all your conversations on that subject, whatever my preference might have been, I refused to say any thing to depress Mr. Baldwin; and it is with great surprise, notwithstanding all I have before seen, that I am made responsible for the denunciation. What may not be proved when such evidence is relied on?[5]

The expose proceeds: *"Remote editors were sounded to bring them out against your re-election."* The only evidence which I have seen or heard of in support of this charge, is in a statement of Gideon Welles, of Hartford, Ct., who, though he was "shocked and astounded" at the alleged suggestion, it since appears, had, some time after, written a letter to the same gentleman whom he charged with making it, *sending his best respects to Mr. Calhoun*, and expressing his own private opinion that you ought not, on principle, to stand another poll. It is a remarkable fact, that this same witness, now so much relied upon to sustain a far-fetched assault upon me, had written another letter to the same person, soon after this shocking overture was said to have been made, in which he said, among other things of the same kind, that Major Eaton was a disgrace to your Administration.[6] So much for this charge, and the witness: but if all he says, in the face of his letters to the contrary, be true, he only testifies to a conversation with another person, of which none pretends that I had any knowledge. Of its supposed object I never heard till it was brought out by Mr. Welles' *perilous* statement. But if there be ground for offence to you in such an act, it must be found in the supposition that, contrary to the general expectation, you were then anxious for a re-election, and had seized upon and laid up the mere expression of a doubt of its expediency as evidence of base designs against yourself and your Administration. It is surely an act of supererogation further to deny and ask for proofs at such a matter.

The last and most prominent allegation at this period, is, that Mr. Calhoun came out with a "horrible plot," and "*when this issue was made with the President, he found his* CABINET DIVIDED*, and an entire reorganization was determined on."* I shall not inquire by whom, or for what purposes, this plot was begun, but I may emphatically demand in

what point it can, by the remotest possibility, be brought in contact with any act of mine, official or otherwise. I have reason to know that it was not the preface to the correspondence, nor the letters in it, which made the issue so personally offensive to you. The first was revised by your particular friend, and every expression which he thought liable to such interpretation was erased at his suggestion; and long after the letters were written you had intimated your willingness to receive Mr. Calhoun, *as usual*, and invite him to your table, if he would leave a card for you. I know through the same channel of common friendship, that he objected to an attempt at reconciliation without explanation, which should remove the cause of the difference; adding, that his honor and integrity had been impugned, and, until this matter was explained, there could be no cordiality in your intercourse, and that he could not submit to an ostensible reconciliation with one who persevered in maintaining such unfounded aspersions against his character.[7] *You* were willing to be reconciled after all the offence contained in the correspondence was fully before you; consequently, the issue spoken of as "made with (yourself) personally," must have been made by the publication, not by the matter of the correspondence. This could not be changed by its transfer to the printer's ink. The whole iniquity of this "horrible plot" is therefore displayed in the act of publishing the correspondence. From this cause alone, it would seem that you found (your) cabinet divided, and determined on its reorganization. All this is now placed at my door, as the consummation of an accumulating series of plots and conspiracies, of which my letter of the 21st ult. is considered an act. I cannot content myself with merely requesting the proofs of my connexion with this affair, but must be permitted to demand how, when, and on what points, were the cabinet divided, either by the matter of the correspondence, or the publication of it? Was it, or any measure connected therewith, ever brought before the cabinet, or introduced into their deliberations? Was any act of the Government influenced by it, or could any one be made to depend on the speculative opinions of the cabinet members, as to the propriety of having that document in possession of the public, rather than confined to the desks of Mr. Calhoun and yourself? Yet such is the alleged foundation of the horrible plot which compelled you to "determine on an entire re-organization of (your) cabinet." The responsibility of which, it now seems, is to be mainly thrown on me. I have already proved that the origin of this whole drama was but a phantom, and it is now demonstrated that the immediate cause of its catastrophe is something, if possible, less substantial. The history of the world, I am sure, cannot furnish such another exhibition of preposterous suspicions and imaginary conspiracies; of agents for espionage and information, to collect and report materials; of such lamentable credulity for their reception, and reckless temerity in determining matters of high moment on grounds so baseless as have been thus shewn to have pervaded your council chamber, almost from the first moment you

entered it, until your re-organization was carried into effect. I beg leave to pause here, and inquire, if these alleged causes for the re-organization of your cabinet be the true causes, what are we to understand from the letters of the Secretary of State and Secretary of War, in which are given their reasons for their voluntary resignation? If the re-organization was a primary determination of your own, grounded upon the series of events indicated in your manifesto, and ripened into maturity by the publication of the correspondence with Mr. Calhoun, wherefore is it that the Secretary of State gave one reason, and the Secretary of War another, for their retirement, neither having the slightest reference to any of the causes you have assigned? I will not pursue the pregnant topic further than to remark, that, as there is an obvious error in the reasons given for the re-organization of a part of the cabinet, there may also be one in those given as to the remainder. Amid so many embarrassing and irreconcilable inconsistencies, I apprehend the public will be ready to conclude that the true reason has within it something deemed so revolting to the moral sense of the American people, that it cannot be approached; and hence the labored and incongruous explanations which have been attempted.

My great offence, as alleged at this crisis, it seems was, in having "taken sides with your adversaries," which, I suppose, also embraces my associates who were invited to resign; but, it is added, that being a representative of Pennsylvania, I was "entitled to respect," and was therefore "treated with kindness to the last," and, in the next line, the public are told that you gave me credit for my *capacity* and *fidelity*. The kind treatment and respect were not, however, for these qualities, but because you were unwilling that Pennsylvania should suppose you wished to put "a mark of disgrace upon me." I am, indeed, gratified at finding that I owe to my native state, rather than to your insincerity, the "kindness and respect" with which I was said to be treated. But to what feeling am I to attribute your testimony to my "*capacity and fidelity"?* If that testimony was sincere, what becomes of the black catalogue of previous plots and base designs portrayed in your expose? If it be not sincere, you have promulgated to the American people, whose Chief Magistrate you are, under your own hand, that which you did not believe! Which alternative shall I choose in pursuing this discussion? I cannot make a choice, and will drop the curtain, leaving to the historian of this part of your life to seek for other lights to solve the paradox, or invoke a patriotic tear to blot out the record of it. It now appears certain, however, that I was retained in office most reluctantly, notwithstanding my "*capacity* and *fidelity*," merely because you were unwilling to mortify Pennsylvania by letting her suppose that you wished to put "a mark of disgrace" upon me. I now perfectly comprehend this annunciation in another point of view. It identifies the declarations which, from time to time, emanated from those who were alleged to be in your special confidence, and to have constituted your most influential council. It was declared by those persons that

I had no share in your confidence, that you would be glad of a pretext to remove me, and that you had endeavored in vain, by "courtly hints," to let me know that you wished me to resign, and relieve you from the responsibility of the act; to all of which, it was added, I was utterly insensible.[8] It is also evident from this admission, that, although I was, during all this period, laboring with the most intense assiduity for the country, and for the benefit of your fame, that you were seeking, with scarcely less diligence, for some pretext which would enable you to encounter, with safety, the political hazard of mortifying Pennsylvania by putting "a mark of disgrace" on me. It further appears that, while these things were doing, the persons, above referred to, were carrying their warfare against me into the papers of Pennsylvania. One of them, at least, was conducting the influence of your name into the elections in that State, to the disadvantage and injury of one of your own political friends, and for no other reason than because he was my personal as well as political friend; and to be an enemy of mine, and of the administration of my native State, was known to be the direct passport to the favor of this council. I say, while these and many other such things, which I might disclose without violating the rule I have prescribed, were daily at work, you "treated me with kindness to the last!!" I reposed on your imputed frankness and sincerity, treating the "malign influence" which surrounded you with silent indifference, determining that it was not less due to your character than to mine that I should not seem to give credit to the assumed authenticity of acts so discreditable to your fame, and that I should expect from yourself alone the only information upon which I could act in such a case, not indeed in "courtly hints," but in the honorable ingenuousness of republican frankness and simplicity.[9] It is now proved, by the documents so often referred to, that the character which I had thus formed, and thus relied upon, was but an object of my imagination, and that, instead of the "respect" with which I was "treated to the last" coming from the heart, it was but a covering for deep rooted hostility, which was only suppressed through fear of "mortifying Pennsylvania," and that I have been, during the whole period of my political connexion with you, an object of your unqualified, and, now, undisguised enmity, as well as a subject for the suspicious and scrutinizing espionage of those who, it now appears by the verification of their sayings, acted under your special authority. I cannot but deplore that you have made it necessary for me, in my own defence, thus to speak of these things; but, since it is so, I rejoice to find, in the labored assault upon me, such clear internal evidence of the truth as it is. But you allege that you "offered (me) a position of dignity and trust, quite equal to (my) deserts" It is true you offered me the mission to Russia; but, after what has been now seen, can any doubt in what light I must have understood that offer, at the time it was made? and, although you have been unable to find any motive for my refusal but "ambition and interest," there are not a few, I trust, who, looking into their own hearts, can realise that when office

is tendered to beguile integrity, it cannot be honorably accepted; still less could I have accepted it as a sop to reconcile Pennsylvania to the agency of an inmate of your household in forming a new party there for the benefit of your designated successor. "Ambition and interest!"—the former seeks high station, and the latter emoluments: both were offered, but "the circumstances" in which I found myself placed, forbade the acceptance, and I sought only retirement to domestic life, not imagining that this was to be further disturbed.

I now pass to the sequel of this extraordinary document, in which I find a labored attempt to adduce facts in support of an idea previously inculcated, viz: that I was the aggressor in all the differences which existed in your imagination, and was seeking to the last for some "pretext for a quarrel to carry home to Pennsylvania." What are these facts? Soon after I had appointed certain officers in the custom house of Philadelphia, disregarding the officious and improper interference of the Second Auditor of the Treasury, who, as I was informed, had been some time on a political visit to that city; and after I had heard that the persons who formed his circle there, spoke of my appointments as unwarranted in my then situation, I received a note from you, in which you designated me as "Acting Secretary of the Treasury," not only on the outside, with marked peculiarities, but also in the body of the note.[10] I could not suppose it to be an inadvertence. It was not recurring to a familiar address from an unusual one, but the reverse; and being the first time you had ever addressed me in that manner, carried, as I thought, on its face, evidence of deliberate intention. The notes which passed between us on the occasion have been published; and I am content that an impartial public should decide, from the face of our two first notes, even unconnected with the visit of Major Lewis to Philadelphia, which of us has the appearance of "seeking cause of offence" in this transaction.

The next fact is, that I wrote an angry letter to Mr. Barry, informing him that I had heard that one of his Assistants had said the Department held a certain bond in terrorem over me. I will publish this correspondence also, though an inconsiderable item in this scrap of history, from which it will be readily determined, whether the disposition to quarrel began with me, or those who had entertained a purpose so injurious to my character, as to have it believed that the silent repose which I was looking to, must be attributed to the base motive of avoiding the payment of a debt to the Government. I could not doubt the report, and wrote, not "an angry," but a respectful note to Mr. Barry, stating what I had heard, and requesting him, if he supposed I was indebted to the Department, to bring suit, as I could not believe that he would make the collection of a debt depend on such considerations. His reply was mainly in the same temper, although I thought he unnecessarily introduced some political matter into his letter, but it was not offensive; nor, though I declined the discussion, did I reply to him in that feeling. I supposed he had misapprehended a single point

in the case, and explained it for his information; but his last letter convinced me of the truth, not only of what I had heard as to the threat; but that it had been written to give all the effect he could to the object of the original declaration of his subordinate. I saw too, in that letter, a germ of the feeling since so fully disclosed, and disposed of the matter as I thought it merited, without further notice.[11] I should have deemed these incidents too unimportant for such notice, but for that which you have given them. They certainly constitute no proof of a disposition in me to "seek cause for a quarrel." They are of the same character with the absurd imputations as to the *publication* in the Telegraph, with which I had no more to do than Major Eaton had; and because I would not disavow, under a menace, I am represented by you as the aggressor; and because I would not present myself without defence to his pistols and stiletto, or neglect my duties to call in aid the civil authorities, I have become, in your judgment, a "threatener of the peace!" To the mind which has long been perverted by the workings of suspicion and passion, it is difficult to present the most clear and sober truths with effect; and I may not have satisfied you of the injustice of any of your suspicions. I can therefore only add, that nothing was farther from my intention than to have had any difference with you, or any member of the Administration, on my retirement from the government. I am not to expect, however, that either arguments or evidence will now produce a change in your opinions, or dispel the error which has so unhappily enveloped your short career in civil station, and so effectually blighted the fair prospects which attended your induction into office.

You will observe that I have confined my remarks almost exclusively to the *effects;* I have but touched the corrupting *cause* of all the diseases of your administration. Nourished by a deplorable infatuation, its operations have been most extensive and injurious. Had I consented to bring my family within the sphere of its influence, I should have been among the chiefest of your favorites; but I would not thus consent to expose them, and therefore have, as it appears, experienced the *efforts* of your secret and abiding hostility.

I now take leave of your *expose*, and proceed to reply to your letter by Mr. Trist, already referred to. I cannot but regret to find the same apparent misapprehension of the nature and object of my letter of the 21st ultimo still existing, which had pervaded your previous proceedings on this subject. The representations I made to you of the transactions of Maj. Eaton and others, was not induced by any alleged injury done to me. This was distinctly disclaimed. The object was simply to bring to your notice a meditated outrage against the majesty of the law, which I deemed discreditable to the Government, and considered it to be my duty to lay before you. In furtherance of this object, I suggested such prominent facts as I thought necessary to enable you to give a direction to any investigation you might order, which would most readily disclose the whole truth. The facts presented by me for your consideration, were, that Major

Eaton and Mr. Randolph had resolved to assault me; that, for effecting their object, they occupied, as a rendezvous, certain lower rooms in the Treasury building, near which, as the head of the Department, I must necessarily pass in the discharge of my official duties; that the officers occupying these rooms, with one other, were in the company of Major Eaton and Randolph, whilst they were thus awaiting an opportunity to make the intended assault. I further stated, that the principal persons thus engaged, viz: Eaton and Randolph, with a recruited force, beset my dwelling for two successive nights, indicating, by words, actions, and armament, hostile designs. All these matters are brought before you, believing that all who had in any manner aided or given countenance at the time to the designs of the principal, were guilty of a high offence against the laws of the country. The matters for investigation under this statement of facts, were simply as follows:

1. Did Eaton and Randolph, or either of them, arm and lie in wait for the purpose alleged, or for any other criminal purpose?

2. Did they use the rooms of the Treasury building as places of rendezvous for such a purpose?

3. Were the officers who occupied those rooms present while they were so employed by Eaton and Randolph, or either of them?

4. Did Eaton and Randolph, with a recruited armed force, threaten an assault on my dwelling, for two successive nights, till a late hour?

If so, then is all I have stated true to the letter. I am sure it will not be contended that it did not concern the character of the Government, to have a severe scrutiny made to ascertain the truth of such allegations; and, if found to be true, to know especially how it had happened that any persons, much more those in your particular confidence, should have dared to occupy the rooms in the Treasury Department, in order to make an assault on the life of its chief officer; and to what extent, if at all, the officers accompanying them, had any knowledge of, or given aid or countenance to so disgraceful an outrage. The facts which then had come to my knowledge were embodied in a letter addressed to you, on the eve of my departure from the seat of Government, (the only moment at my disposal for that purpose,) believing that you would conceive it your duty to cause the subject to be investigated in such manner as the long experience of the most enlightened communities had found best calculated to elicit truth and promote justice. But you have not thought proper to do so. You have contented yourself with drawing out and spreading before the public, the excuses and denials of a portion of the persons referred to, without taking the slightest notice of the principal and avowed offender, rejecting all offers to adduce additional testimony. An examination might very possibly have implicated persons not before thought of, or resulted in the acquittal of others who were suspected. But that the facts should have been investigated, will not be denied by any one who duly appreciates the sacred duty of repressing, among the officers of the Government, within

the walls of the public edifices, all disposition to violence. I have only to add, that, when such a scrutiny shall be made, all I have alleged will be substantially proved; the subsequent prevarications of the minor coadjutors to the contrary notwithstanding. I do not complain that you have not instituted an investigation; I have no right to do so, more than any other citizen of the United States. *You* are responsible for the due execution of the laws of the District; and when these fail to afford personal protection, I hope to be as able as most others to protect myself. But I think I have a just ground for complaint, in your effort to transfer from yourself and your officer, who are constituted for that service, to me, a private citizen, at a distance, and without special interest, the labor and responsibility of carrying on a criminal prosecution, for an offence committed exclusively against the United States, even after the principal offender had confessed more than enough to justify a public prosecution. But I find a still more serious cause of complaint, in your additional effort to divert the public mind from the primary and real question before you, to the consideration of a collateral and false issue, between myself and the companions of Eaton and Randolph, whilst at their rendezvous; whereby you might ostensibly impeach my veracity, without contradicting one of my assertions. Not content with framing such an issue, thus calculated to do me injury, and to defeat every purpose of justice, I find in your letter, and with deep regret feel myself obliged to expose it, indubitable evidence of a deplorable bias in your mind. As an apparent cause for the embarrassment interposed, you have made a gratuitous offer of your protection to me if I should engage in those prosecutions. But not having sought such protection, nor deemed it desirable, it removes none of the difficulties previously and subsequently thrown in the way. I asked an assurance of protection for the witnesses who might hold offices at your disposal, from injury in consequence of giving testimony; but this is given in a form which they will regard as a threat, rather than an assurance of protection.

As no witness would be required to inculpate himself by his own testimony, the condition annexed to your assurance, that "it must not be construed as affording impunity for their own misconduct, which the investigation might unfold," could have no meaning that I can imagine, unless intended for a menace. I have also observed in your letter another obstacle to any scrutiny before a tribunal of the District. It is stated by you that, "should any person be found to have formed a part of a recruited force to engage in hostilities of any kind within the precincts of the Department, or elsewhere, (you) will feel it to be (your) duty, in addition to the penalties of the law, forthwith to dismiss the offender from public service;" and in the next paragraph you prejudge and promulgate the acquittal of the "Acting Secretary of War, and others" (alleged to have been charged by me) of any offence whatever, having previously justified the officers whose rooms were occupied for a rendezvous, on the ground that "it was their duty to be there; and that any body else had a right to come there."[12] If a

free and untrammelled investigation had been gone into, as I requested, I had determined to call upon you as the first witness. Notwithstanding you say in your letter to Messrs. Campbell, Smith, Lewis, and Randolph, that "Mr. Ingham's letter," (received by you at 9 o'clock on the morning of the 22d of June) "gave (you) the first information that (you) had on the subject of his difficulties," yet I risk nothing in saying, that your examination, with the other testimony in my power, would have afforded ample proof of the extraordinary fact that you were well apprised of what was going on anterior to that date. The feelings which governed you on this occasion may be understood from the fact that you have justified Major Eaton's meditated assault upon me, and from the declaration of one of your devoted friends, that, in a conversation he had with you before the intended assault, you informed him of the controversy between Major Eaton and myself, and said that, "if there was to be any more writing, it would be in "*red ink.*" Your course, on this subject, is the more extraordinary, and the more worthy to be specially remarked, inasmuch as the persons principally interested are known to be of your most confidential friends, and believed to be partakers of your most secret councils; who were in habits of daily intercourse and consultation with you, and whose devotion to your wishes authorized the belief that they would do nothing of importance against your approbation. Of the principal offender no notice is taken, as if there was no such person on the stage of action. All the rest engaged, or supposed to have been engaged in the intended assault, are completely exculpated, and a virtual amnesty given them, while the words of your letter appear guardedly arranged to convey a denunciation of "the penalties of the law," and dismission from office, against those who were armed in my defence. It should be observed that your denunciation of the penalties of the law, and your judgment of acquittal in the District of Columbia, are not idle words. All the juries who might be called to try such offences, must be selected under your own eye, and by an officer who holds his office at your will; in addition to this, you hold the pardoning power in your own hands. Whoever has paid attention to State trials, cannot be insensible to the effect of these powers. I am, therefore, now met with an unsought offer of personal protection, while I carry on a public prosecution, in which the witnesses I might offer are threatened with the privation of the means of subsistence for their families, and some with the addition of the penalties of the law, as a punishment for their generous services in my defence. How can I understand such a communication as expressing a desire for a free, impartial, and untrammelled investigation of truth, before a tribunal of justice. It is any thing else rather than this. If it had been your sole intention, in writing this letter, to deter the scrutiny it purports to acquiesce in, it could not have been more effectually framed for its object; for you had judged rightly in supposing that I would much rather suffer all the detriment arising from the imputation cast upon me by your proceeding, than expose

to injury men who had offered to risk their lives for mine. But you have left me no choice in an appeal to a tribunal of criminal jurisdiction. At the same moment in which you seemingly invited public attention to see "what proofs (I) should be able to bring in support of the charges," you closed the door as well against the witnesses as against the effect of their testimony. Instead of accepting my aid for the purposes of justice, you have proclaimed the acquittal of the guilty, and left nothing for me to do but to aid you in the arraignment and punishment of the innocent. To give the more effect to your purpose, you allege that you have already made inquiries (secretly of course) and from the information thus received, declare my statements to be "unfounded in fact;" and not only denounce the evidence on which I relied as "vague and false," without having heard it, but, to complete this course of proceeding in a manner most injurious to my character and feelings, you have even descended from your high station to offer me a personal taunt. Such is the close of the last scene of the political relation between you and me.

You will perceive that I have carefully abstained from introducing into this discussion any matter to which you have not invited public attention in your letter of the 7th instant, and your document of the 11th, and which is not necessary to my defence against the charges therein made. I have therefore left a vast field wholly unexplored, all of which was fairly at my disposal, if I could have reconciled my feelings, even under such circumstances of injury, to do any thing which might resemble an aggressive controversy with the Chief Magistrate. Self defence is, however, one of those sacred reserved rights which, it is conceded in all communities, man has never submitted to the entire control of society; it is this right alone I claim to have exerted in the foregoing remarks. If I have used it with what any one may consider an undue freedom, it will be cause of regret to me; but having, from the beginning of my official connexion until it was dissolved by you, devoted all the faculties of my mind to the public service, with no other view than to promote the public interest and the character of the Government, and, consequently, the fame of its chief officer, I have not considered myself as laboring under obligations which could not be paid, nor you as having any right to inflict injuries by way of adjusting such a balance. With the exception of station, therefore, I felt no restraint which would not be required in any other case, and if station can be construed to confer privileges of this nature, those who claim them ought to remember that the established courtesies of republican society, at least, protect the inferior members from the unjust effects of such a privilege, by imposing corresponding restraints on the superior. But it should always be kept in view, wherever this correspondence may lead to, that it has been forced upon me in a manner which has left me no choice but to suffer the effects of your cruel injustice, or to use some of the means which crowd into my service, to avert the intended wrongs. I have already adverted to the manner in which our official connexion has been main-

tained on my part. The documents before me show how that relation has been maintained on your part. It commenced in suspicion, and continued under a brooding, but restrained hostility; was marked, near its close, by a wanton and desperate design, fostered in the breast of your most devoted and most confidential friend, to assail my life; and, failing in this, it is now terminated with a still more unrelenting and injurious purpose of destroying my reputation, and robbing my children of their only hope of bequest. I have the honor to be, respectfully, Your obedient servant,

S. D. INGHAM.

Printed, *United States' Telegraph*, August 2, 1831 (mAJs). *Niles*, August 6 (18-0272).

1. On July 11 the *Globe* published an extended attack on Ingham, accompanied by the first printing of AJ's letter to Ingham of June 23 and Trist's of July 7. The *Globe* charged Ingham with seeking to undermine AJ's administration from the first, and of now concocting charges of a conspiracy against himself to excite the public against it.

2. Ingham's entire paragraph to this point closely paraphrases the July 11 *Globe* article.

3. A footnote here reads "I will not require of you to prove that I was present, or 'in the company' of the conspirators."

4. The *US Telegraph* had been the administration's editorial voice until the *Globe* commenced publication in December 1830. Jacob Frick (1782–1859) and Peter Hay (1789–1879) published the Philadelphia *American Sentinel*.

5. AJ had appointed Henry Baldwin to the Supreme Court in January 1830. Duff Green had opposed Baldwin's candidacy and editorialized strongly against it in the *Telegraph* before the appointment was made (*Jackson Papers*, 8:11–12).

6. On February 23, the *Globe* had charged the administration's political difficulties to intrigues "set on foot directly after the organization of the administration *to bring out Mr. Calhoun for the Presidency for the next four years, whether Gen. Jackson should be a candidate or not.*" The *Globe* accused Duff Green of having "made attempts to induce distant editors to come out at once for Mr. Calhoun" as early as 1829. Green denied it, and on April 6 the *Globe* quoted an April 24, 1830, letter from *Hartford Times* editor Gideon Welles (1802–1878), saying that Green had tried to enlist him as a Calhoun partisan at Washington in December 1829. Welles said he "was shocked—astounded" at Green's suggestions. In rebuttal, the *Telegraph* on April 14 printed a March 31, 1830, letter from Welles to Green, wherein Welles said he was personally "against any individual holding the office a second term," but would "submit" if the party decided otherwise. On June 8, the *Telegraph* printed another letter from Welles to Green, written January 6, 1830, in which Welles "earnestly hoped that some disposition will be made of Eaton, for he is doing the Administration no good," and asked Green to present his "best respects" to Calhoun.

7. The particular friend was Eaton, who in the *Globe* on March 26 had acknowledged reading and correcting Calhoun's public address on the Seminole affair before its publication in the *Telegraph* on February 17. Explaining why Calhoun had held off publishing until then, the *Telegraph* claimed on March 18 that mutual friends of AJ and Calhoun had attempted to reconcile the two, promising Calhoun a respectful reception if he called on AJ, but that Calhoun felt he could not with propriety call until AJ withdrew his accusation of "insincerity and duplicity." Only on learning of AJ's flat refusal had he then proceeded to publish.

8. On March 31, the *Pennsylvania Inquirer* had reported "from undoubted authority" that AJ had "expressed a wish" for Ingham to retire and spare the "unpleasant duty" of removing him; but that Ingham, bent on "working ruin" to AJ and promoting Calhoun, had ignored the "courtly hint." On April 13 the *Telegraph* had accused William B. Lewis of planting the story.

9. John Branch had charged "malign influences" on the Cabinet in his May 3 letter, first published in the Raleigh *Star*. The electoral influence named by Ingham was William B. Lewis's, deployed to defeat Philadelphia congressman Daniel H. Miller for reelection in 1830.

10. On May 20, Ingham had written Philadelphia customs collector James N. Barker to approve his hiring of three new customs inspectors. On May 25 and June 1, he wrote Barker accusing William B. Lewis of interfering to control the appointments. Barker wrote back on May 28, repelling the charge of succumbing to improper influence by Lewis; but on June 2 and 10 Ingham withdrew approval to hire two of the inspectors and, under authority of an 1830 customs law, himself appointed two assistant appraisers in their stead (DNA-RG 56, M178-21; Ingham Papers, PU).

11. On June 4, Ingham wrote William T. Barry about a Washington rumor that he, Ingham, would not dare to criticize the administration because a bond held against him in the Post Office Department as security for former Philadelphia postmaster Richard Bache Jr. would be put in suit if he "should speak too freely." Ingham demanded to know if the story came from Barry or his assistants, and urged Barry to "commence the suit without delay" if he believed such a debt really existed. On June 9 Ingham wrote again, complaining that Barry had satisfactorily disavowed his own authorship of the story but had not exonerated his assistants. Ingham maintained that he had in fact been released from his securityship for Bache years before. Barry replied on June 13, refusing to hold his assistants officially responsible for their private conversation or for accusations against them founded on rumor (Ingham Papers, PU).

12. The quotations are from Trist's July 7 letter to Ingham (above).

From Stevens Thomson Mason

[This letter is available only in a later published version.]

Detroit, July 26, 1831.

Dear Sir:

The announcement of my appointment as Secretary of the Territory preceded me by one day, and I found on my arrival that certain persons had gotten up an excitement which will result in a remonstrance against my continuance, by a meeting held in this place. The motives which originated this course are obvious here. The agitation of the recent election had not subsided and the confidence given to the Clay and Anti-Masonic parties by their success, the first in getting a delegate to Congress of their choice and the latter by obtaining a majority in the Legislative Council, has emboldened them to assail anything coming from the administration.[1] Some men calling themselves friends of the administration, from jealousy at my promotion or from other pretexts, which restless spirits have always at command, have had the weakness to unite in the censure of an act which they themselves would have recommended had they been flattered by a previous consultation.

In this state of things, I have been beset with a sort of inquisitorial scrutiny, and finding nothing to rest upon but the fact of my minority, I have been asked to relinquish my office. To this I replied that having received my appointment from you, no power but that of the constituted authority of the country should drive me from my place; nor would I yield it except

to your wishes; that no concealment was practiced toward you and that what your judgment approved I should maintain calmly, but firmly; that I should consider it even a disparagement of yourself to be persuaded to undo what you had done; and that you could not approve any act done under intimidation, were I capable of submitting to it.

In this representation I give to the excitement a force and character which it may not merit, for in truth it is local and partial in its localities, confined to men who delight in noise and strife, and who have sinister objects in view. That it is temporary, the history of similar ones in this place on occasions equally unworthy, gives a perfect assurance. For myself I apprehend nothing from it, nor can it affect any permanent interests here or elsewhere. That it is designed to strike higher than one so unimportant as myself, is clear. The bare circumstance of my being allied to one close in your confidence, is an incentive to the factions who are in the opposition. That their objection to me cannot reach you is certain, for that objection rests upon a fact that forms no disqualification, and is merely a computation of months and days as to my age.

It has happened unfortunately for me that I enter upon my office when the public mind is in an unusual state of agitation. The recent warm contests in the elections, the retiring of the present Governor, doubts and anxieties about his successor; and the duties of Governor devolving on me so immediately, my opponents have made their objections as if I was in fact appointed Governor, or would continue to discharge the duties for years. This difficulty I trust will soon be removed by the appointment of a Governor, nor should I have apprehended the slightest objection to my appointment had the present Governor continued or his successor been here to assume the government.[2]

I write you this as due to the confidence you have reposed in me; and especially due to the expression of a wish (equal to a command with me) to hear from me frequently. I desire not to convey the idea that I am in trouble or difficulty. I see my way clear and feel a confidence in maintaining myself against all opposition, if sustained by you, of which I feel a perfect assurance.

With sentiments of high estimation and filial regard, I have the honor to be Your obt. servant

S. T. MASON

P. S. I should be pleased to learn that you had received this.

Printed, Lawton T. Hemans, *Life and Times of Stevens Thomson Mason* (Lansing, 1920), pp. 59–62 (mAJs). John Thomson Mason (1787–1850) had resigned as secretary of Michigan Territory on July 12, and on the same day AJ appointed his nineteen-year-old son Stevens Thomson Mason (1811–1843) in his place (*TPUS*, 12:308). On July 26, a meeting of Detroit citizens addressed a memorial to AJ, declaring themselves "aggrieved—humiliated—outraged" that AJ would entrust the powers of office, including that of acting as governor during the governor's frequent absences, to "*a lad not out of his teens*," too young even to vote. The memorial was immediately published and later, on August 10, sent on to AJ

through Edward Livingston, with 160 signatures attached (DNA-RG 59, M639-15; *TPUS*, 12:323–29). Mason responded on July 28 with a public address defending himself and his appointment (*Detroit Journal and Michigan Advertiser*, August 3, 1831). He wrote AJ again on August 1 (below).

1. National Republican candidate Austin Eli Wing (1792–1849) had just been elected territorial delegate to Congress.

2. On August 6, AJ appointed George Bryan Porter (1791–1834) to replace Lewis Cass as Governor of Michigan Territory (*TPUS*, 12:321–22).

To Andrew Jackson Donelson

Washington july 27th. 1831

My Dr Andrew

yours of the 13th instant is just recd. I am happy you are with your dear family & that they are in good health.

I have only time to draw your attention to the passing scenes here. I was in hopes Mr Berrien would have retired as a gentleman—but he has Shewn the combination & conspiracy from the commencemt of which I often told you, was intended to injure me; and has afforded abundant proof, of what little confidence I ought to have had in the trio, and that when I met them in my office, that I ought to have had some respectable witness always present to have shielded me from their falshoods, & slanders. Ingham is prostrate in his own state, & I apprehend no injury from the others—remember my dear Andrew, how much I expostulated with you and your family; I knew the base hypocracy of this word, I knew their intention but I did not know that my Cabinet, like J. C. Calhoun was Smiling in my face, & secretely endeavouring to destroy—but I knew you & your family were operated upon to join the combination to my injury, I endeavoured to prevent it. The trio well knew I would not permit Eaton to be drove out of my Cabinet, & if they could not harmonise that they ought to have retired, but I knew their plans, if they can profit by their treachery, they cannot injure me. I have not long to live, & wearied with treachery

One passing word on your letter where it says you cannot comply with my wishes as it respects the intercourse with Mrs. Eaton. Now my Dr. Andrew, I never have attempted to interfere with your intercourse in society & the world unless as a member of my family, and surely you would not attempt to controle me, & in mine. The only intercourse I asked was to treat all the heads of Departments & their families (you & family being part of mine) with the same comity—and this is a right I claim, yielding the same to all others, that I never will, or can resign to any, and had I enforced it at first, as I endeavoured by my counsil, which was rejected, I should have steered clear of many a heartrending pang—but I muse close with a tender of my affectionate regards to Emily & the dear little children, believe me your friend & affectionate uncle in great haste.

Andrew Jackson

P.S. To have the misfortune to contend with such unprincipled men as I have, who was brought into my cabinet by the recommendation of White & Eaton in whom I had, & have confidence and am sure it never will be violated—and those I had adopted in my family produces reflections of the most bitter kind. I am just in receipt of a letter from an old friend near ~~Dicks~~ Dixsons Spring informing me that Genl Desha has stated that I wanted Genl D. S. Donelson to support Burton against Genl Hall—this ~~it~~ is impossible, Daniel could have said so, because it is positively untrue, but it is intended to rouse the hostility of Hall against me for this I care not, but I note it because it is positively not true I never spoke with Daniel on such a subject.[1] I have often, & still say, "a House divided against itself cannot stand—A J

ALS, DLC-Donelson Papers (18-0280).

1. The letter was David Burford's of July 3 (above).

To David Burford

Private

Washington july 28th. 1831—

My Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your very friendly letter of the 3d. instant, for which I sincerely thank you. It is only through such friends as yourself that I am informed of the *Slang* of the times, which is put forth for political affect. And as the surest evidence that I properly appreciate the motives which prompted your communication, and feel grateful to you for it, I snatch a moment, from the discharge of public duties, which press upon me, to answer it. Professed friends, but enemies in disguise, are much more dangerous than open enemies, and, until detected, they are calculated to do most harm. I was not, therefore, astonished to receive the report you have given me of Genl Desha. I have long since been advised of his being one of the satilites of J. C. Calhoun Ingham & Co. and hence you can well suppose that his course of conduct does, by no means, excite my surprise. It is only necessary to draw your attention to recent movements of Duff Green, Ingham, Berrien, & Co, in order to convince you that no confidence ought *ever* to have been reposed in them, and, that, whenever they approached me, I aught to have had some man of truth present to have shielded me from their combined misrepresentations and slanders. I am sure that there cannot be one honest man in america, who does not *now* approve the "removal" of Ingham, Branch and Berrien from my Cabinet. Its harmony was disturbed, and the public business interupted by these men *secretely* entering into the intrigues of Mr. J. C. Calhoun. It is positively untrue that Ingham & Branch, as reported to you by Genl Desha, were not invited to my Cabinet Council.

There never was one to which they were *not invited*, and at which they were not *present*. It is true that I had, & still have, great confidence in Mr Van Buren and Major Eaton; they never have, and I am sure, never will, betray it. And it almost seems useless for me, after you have viewed the treacherous conduct of Ingham Branch & Berrien, to inform you that they were wholy unworthy of the *least* degree of my confidence, and were the secret agents of J. C. Calhoun to whose interest Genl Desha was devoted, notwithstanding he well knew with what duplicity and hypocracy Mr Calhoun had acted towards me. I will give you a few facts for your own information. You have seen Mr Calhouns *book* in which he places before the nation, the correspondence between him and myself accompanied with his own notes, and comments, to mistify it, and bewilder & mislead the public mind; you have seen me charged, by him, with having transcended my orders on the Seminole Campaign; you have seen him acknowledge (in his book) that it was him and not Mr Crawford, as was stated in the public journals of 1818, that moved my arrest, or punishment, in the secrete Cabinet council held on that occasion, and this acknowledgement is made too, after having denied to Genl Desha (as the Genl informed me) that he ever had made such a motion; you have seen published in the same *book*, *without my consent*, my confidential letter of the 6th. of Janry 1818 to Mr Monroe, and an acknowledgement by Mr Calhoun, that he read this letter and remarked to Mr Monroe that it was on the affairs of Florida, and required his attention, and answer; you have perceived, in that confidential letter that Mr John Rhea was mentioned as a confidential person through whom Mr Monroe could, with safety communicate to me his wishes, and my promise to execute them in sixty days after their receipt; and you have also seen the public orders under which I acted, and that they were *a chart Blanch*, by which, as Mr Calhoun explained to Govr. Bibb, I was authorised to conduct the war as I ~~pleased~~ thought best. My public orders were not only thus explained; but Mr Calhoun who was in the entire confidence of Mr Monroe, must have known that Mr. Rhea, by the instructions of Mr Munroe, had answered the confidential letter to which I have alluded, and fully approved the views I, therein, submitted. It is clear then, that Mr. Calhoun did know that I had not transcended my orders; but, on the contrary, had fulfilled them to a *tittle*, and accomplished the secrete wishes of Mr Monroe, *expressed* to me thro' Mr. J. Rhea, who had been pointed out as an individual in whom the most implicit confidence might, safely be reposed. What then can you think of Mr Calhoun, who was capable, after being fully possessed of all this knowledge, and whilst, in his letters to me, and conversations with my friends, he professed the strongest friendship for me, and approbated my conduct in the Floridas, of moving in the secrete Cabinet Council, my arrest or punishment, and thus causing the proceedings in Congress against me in 1818 and 19? It is this man of deceptious conduct, with his vacillating politics, and nullification doctrines, whom, Genl Desha, Ingham Duff Green, Berrien, & Co, wish

to *force* into the Presidential chair. And their conduct indicates a determination to prostrate all who will not fall down and worship their Idol; but there is consolation in the reflection that theirs is not the will of the people, who (unlike themselves) having no motive to err, are honest, and, when informed, will award justice to every man. But the duplicity of Mr Calhoun did not end with the foregoing narration. I came to this city by the advice of my friends in 1819, pending the debate in the House of Representatives on the resolutions of Clay and Cobb, and had the fullest and strongest confidence in the friendship and support of Mr Calhoun.[1] In the honesty of my own heart, and conscious of the purity of my own motives, I confided in Mr Calhouns professions of friendship and approbation of my conduct which I received from all quarters, and regarded him high minded and honorable, and could not, therefore, suppose him capable of duplicity, or hear, with patience, any insinuations against him.

When thus innocent of the existance of any improper motive, and under the full influence of my confidence in Mr Calhoun Mr Rhea (then a member of Congress) was sent to me (said by Mr Monroe) to request that I would burn his confidential letter wrote to me, at the instance of Mr Monroe, in answer to mine of the 6th. of Janry 1818. The debate having ended in the House, and conscious of no wrong in myself suspected none in others, I said to Mr Rhea that I it should be burned as soon as I returned home—and accordingly I did burn it, altho Mr Lacock had revived the subject in the Senate. I could not indulge even a suspicion that this request, coming as it did from Mr Monroe thro Mr Rhea, was made to injure me by depriving me of the benefit of the testimony contained in this letter; for I did believe that, should ~~if~~ it ever become necessary for its contents to be known, neither Mr Monroe or Mr Calhoun would deny the existance of the facts. I was willing to assume any responsibility that the case might require so long as the Government would retain for the benefit of my Country, the advantages secured to it by the Seminole campaingn. It is now believed that this subject was taken up in the senate in consequence of the secrete intrigues of Mr Calhoun to arrest and crush, what he considered my growing popularity, by counteracting, if possible, the effects which the decission of the House of Representatives might have had on the public mind.

But be this as it may, there is, surely stronger presumptive evidence against Mr Calhoun than he has against Mr Van Buren in respect to the plots with which he has charged him. The burning of this confidential letter or my promise that I would burn it, was made known to Mr Monroe by Mr Rhea, and you ~~see~~ perceive from the Book of Mr Calhoun, that the moment he is detected in his duplicity by the statement of Mr Crawford (Mr Rheas letter being burnned) he acknowledges "that he did move for my arrest or punishment" and adds insult to injury, by urging that I had transcended my orders. Providence has permitted Mr. Rhea to live and see this *Book*, on reading it, he addressed a letter to Mr Munroe verifying all

the facts stated in this letter on this subject, and has placed in my hands a certified copy of the same. In corroboration of his statement, I have Judge Overtons certificate stating the existance of said letter, which was placed in his hands with other ~~letters~~ confidential letters when he wrote the defence of the Executive and his commanding generals on the Seminole War, and that this letter was in the proper handwriting of Mr John Rhea, and after I returned from Washington in 1819, I told him I had burned it. From this statement of facts, you will be able to judge, to some extent of the capacity of Mr Calhoun to intrigue, and whether he has not been crying Plot, plot, Plot, when, at the same time he has been plotting to ~~destroy~~ disturb the harmony of my Cabinet, to injure me, and prevent the people, who have again, contrary to my wishes, placed my name before the nation for a second election, from electing me, & to secure his own elevation. If the people in whose hands I have always been, prefer him to me, I shall be content. If it be their will, founded on their own unbiassed judgement, I will with pleasure retire to my peaceful Hermitage. It is because Major Eaton would not become the suppliant instrument in the hands of Mr Calhoun and support his ambitious views; and Mr Van Buren, by a laborious attention to the duties assigned him had acquired for himself, in connection with my administration, an elevated rank for his talents and skill in our arrangements with Foreign nations, that Ingham, Branch and Berrien, operated upon by Mr Calhoun, were intriguing to destroy them, and injure me. Such injustice I never will countenance, nor will I ever support an intriguer whose sole object appears to be to raise himself on the ruin of others. Regardless of what Genl Desha may choose to say of my predilections, I declare to you, I meddle not with elections, I leave the people to make their own Presidents, and my Cabinet, so far as I can controle ~~it~~ such matters, shall not interfere. We have anough to do when we confine ourselves to our own proper duties, and whenever any of my present Cabinet (none of whom do I suspect) like some of the last, become electioneerers, and thus disturb its harmony they shall receive the same fate which has been decreed to others, thus circumstanced.

But I must close for the present with one passing remark in reference to the information given "that I had desired Genl Daniel S. Donelson to support Mr Burton against Genl Hall." I pronounce this statement positively untrue. I have never spoken to Genl Donelson on the subject of the canvass between Genl Hall & Mr Burton. The latter is married to the full cousin of Genl Donelson, and a favorite niece of my Dear Mrs Jackson, and daughter of a favorite brother, whose welfare I most sincerely wish. In the election of her husband I have in no way or manner interferred. This letter is not for publication; but if you think proper, you may shew it to Genl Desha, Genl Donelson, and Genl Hall, and such of your neighbours who may have been imposed upon by Genl Deshas misrepresentations. I am very respectfully your friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, Mrs. J. Noble Crump (18-0294). LS draft in George Breathitt's hand, DLC (39); Bassett; 4:318–21. Burford replied on December 4 (below).

1. On January 20, 1819, Henry Clay, then speaker of the House, delivered a major speech supporting Thomas W. Cobb's resolutions condemning AJ's Seminole campaign (*Clay Papers*, 2:636–62).

From James Alexander Hamilton

New York July 28th. 1831.

My dear Sir

Your letter of the 23d. Inst covering one from Mr Van Buren, found me confined to my Bed by a severe attack of dissentary, which is at this moment a little mitigated. I am so weak as to render it necessary to use the pen of my Son in addressing you.

McLane and family arrived yesterday evening I have sent to him to call upon me and when he comes will explain to him your wishes. I have also sent to Mr Van Buren; who is at the Springs to announce to him McLane's arrival, that he may come down to meet him as he desired me to do. immediately after that interview which will be in Four days I will urge Mr McLane's hastening to Washington. He will require as much time as that to get out his luggage and recruit after a sea voyage, during which ~~time~~ he has been very sick—[1]

I presume you will without difficuty find a lawyer in Charleston who as atty for the US will commence suits on Revenue Bonds and if you can depend upon The Dist Judge (which by the way I doubt) These suits may be conducted to Judgt without the intervention of a Jury such is our practice By the 65 § of the act of Congress passed 2d March 1799. vol 3 US Laws Gordon p 289 § 1758 The Court is required to give Judgt *at the Return term of the suit*: unless the deft shall make affidavit than error has been committed in the liquidation of the amt. of the duties specifying such error & stating that it had been redrssed in writing to the Collector[2] under this act ~~it is~~ our practise is at the Return of the suit the Deft being in Custody or having given special Bail (and to avoid any difficulty as to that I would advise that in cases of undoubted solvency the Marshal should be authorised to permit the deft to endorse his appearance on the frnt of the writ) for the Dist atty to file his Declaration in open Court & on doing so to move for a Rule that the Deft plead instanter and no plea being put in an affidavit (as pointed out by statute) instantly to move the Court that the Defts Default in not pleading be entered & for a Rule for Judgt which the Court grants immediately. The Record is then signed & filed. the Judgt is for the Penalty of the Bond & the Costs which are taxed by the Court. & The execution issues with directions to the Marshal endorsed on the back to collect the amount of Duties actually due with Int & Costs There can be no difference in any Court in any part of the US as to the practice under this act It gives a rule of proceeding for

them all which they must adopt notwithstanding it may be wholly different or repugnant to the rules of practice in the different states. It will be attempted to get the Cause to a Jury by pleading non est factum[3] I would however insist under the same law that the Court ought not to receive such a plea unless the deft would swear that he had not executed the Bond and if such an affidavit was made I would move the Court to impannel the Jury immediately & proceed to prove the execution of the Bond by the subscribing witness & that being done the Court would reject all other evidence except as to the mere fact did the deft *sign seal* & [deliver] & the Jury could not hesitate to give a verdict *[& wo]*uld then move for the Committal of the Deft for Perjury.

If the Judge would do his duty he would make short work of the Cause in this manner He could not legally allow any testimony to be given under the General issue in relation to the purpose for which the Bond was given & no address to the Jury (not a word) beyond the Question whether the deft executed *that* paper or not.

I cannot hold up my head longer to write & must therefore close by subscribing myself with the truest attachment your friend

J A Hamilton

[Endorsed by AJ:] Col A. J. Hamiltons on the subject of custom House bonds—A. J

ALS, DLC (39). As instructed, district attorney Robert Gilchrist brought suit on the unpaid Charleston customs bond. The case came to trial in September. U.S. district judge Thomas Lee (1769–1839) allowed a jury trial in accord with the Seventh Amendment, but refused to hear arguments challenging the constitutionality of the tariff, instructing the jury only to determine whether the defendants had in fact executed the bond. The jury found that they had, thus deciding for the government (*Charleston Mercury,* September 22, 1831).

1. The writing to this point is by Hamilton's son, Alexander Hamilton (1816–1889). The remainder is in Hamilton's hand.

2. Hamilton's language drew from Section 65 of the March 2, 1799, customs enforcement law (*Statutes*, 1:676–77). His citation was to *A Digest of the Laws of the United States* (Philadelphia, 1827), published by Thomas Francis Gordon (1787–1860).

3. Latin for "not his deed." The defendants in the customs case entered this plea, attempting to argue that the bond was constitutionally invalid and therefore not legally executed. Morton Alexander Waring (1784–1863) was the U.S. marshal for South Carolina.

From Louis McLane

New York July 28. 1831.

Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure to inform you that I arrived here this day in safety with my family, on board the ship President, Capt Champlin, from London & Portsmouth, whence we sailed on the 19th. ultimo.[1] By the

successful voyage of this fine ship I am constituted the bearer of my own despatches, having entrusted my letters informing you of my intention to return so soon, by the packet ship New York from Liverpool, which sailed thence on the 16th. ult. but has not yet arrived.

In my letters by the "New York" I stated that it would probably be in my power to repair to Washington by the first of August. I regret to state, however that I have arrived here considerably enfeebled from sea sickness during the voyage, and may be detained for the purpose of getting some rest, and also of placing three of my sons at school rather longer than I had expected. I pray you, however, to be persuaded, Sir, that I will not lose one moment unnecessarily, and that you will not require my presence earlier unless there be something more in the state of the public service than I am aware of.

I beg to offer you the assurance of my best wishes and have the honor to be, dear Sir, with great respect Your obedient Servant

Louis McLane

ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M30-33).

1. Henry L. Champlin (c1786–1859) was captain of the packet *President*.

From John Christmas McLemore and John Bell

(Copy)

Nashville 29th July 1831

My Dear Friend,

Your kind letter of the 4th Inst came duly to hand and I have purposely delayed its answer for Mr Balches' return to whom I am refered by Judge Overton's letter which you inform me in yours contain substantially your opinions and feelings with regard to the difficulties supposed to exist between you and your connections in relation to a subject which has given us all ~~such~~ so much pain, and also for the purpose of confering fully and freely with Majr. Donelson and our much esteemd. friend Colo. John Bell who on all occasions has shewn himself the true friend of your administration and an honest desire to keep your friends and particularly your connections united and in whose judgement I have great confidence—after a seeing all your recent letters to Majr Donelson and understanding distinctly his feelings and opinions with regard to the difficulties to which you have refered—Mr. Bell—Mr Balch & myself have after the most mature reflection urged it on Majr. Donelson to set out with his family for Washington without further correspondence, just as he did at the commencement of your administration, as a part of your family. We doubt not that his course and that of his family will be such as to afford no uneasiness to yourself or any just pretext for the censure of

your enemies. We think there is no necessity for the specification of terms on one side or the other.

If in persuing the course advised—Majr. Donelson shall go on to the city contrary to your wishes—we & *not him are to blame*.

Mr. Bell as an evidence of his hearty concurrence with these views, has subscribed his name to this letter with me. Most sincearly & affectionately Your Friend

signed Jno C McLemore
Jno Bell

[Endorsed by AJ Donelson:] Mr. McLemore & Mr. Bell 29th. July to the President

Copy in McLemore's hand, DLC-Donelson Papers (18-0312). McLemore wrote John Coffee this same day that he, Bell, and Donelson together had decided on the Donelsons' immediate return to Washington. McLemore calculated that "Majr & Mrs Eaton will have left the city before their arrival and no difficulty can arise on this score" (Coffee Papers, THi).

From Martin Van Buren

N York July 29. 1831

My Dear Sir

I arrived here last Eveng. & had the pleasure to meet our friend McLane & his family in good health & spirits. He will be with you the latter end of the week & enter upon his duties with zeal & of course ability. I found your letters of the 23d ~~& 25~~ here & rd. yours of the 25 this morng from Albany. The closing of the mail & the pressure of visitors allow me only to express my high gratification to find you in good health & such excellent spirits. our friends regret the protracted discussions in regard to recent events at Washington principally from the gratification they afford to the adversary & because they are satisfied with things as they are, & with your motives & acts in all things. My chief apprehension is about your health for I have seen too much of deep rooted affection of the people for you & know too well the purity of your intentions & the accurate knowledge you possess of the human character to ~~fear~~ apprehend any injury to yourself from all that can be done agt. you. Would not a trip to ~~the~~ one of the Virginia Springs in August be well. Next month in Washington is certainly some what dangerous. I have closed my concerns & am now ready to enter upon the mission which you are pleased to send me upon. Captn Downes informs me that he will report the vessel as ready on the first although I learn from other sources that even after that some days may be profitably employed by him in completing his arrangements & eight or ten days delay will be of use to me. Mr McLane writes to Mr Livingston

to day informing him of Mr Irvings unwillingness to continue as Secty of Legation which makes it necessary that I should renew the suggestion I made to you in relation to Mr. Vail. Mr McLane assured Mr Irving that it would be agreeable to you & if I ~~do~~ should come out as Minister to me to continue him but he had long since decided to resign upon the termination of Mr McLanes Mission. I presume Mr. Vail can be ready in a few days & I shall be anxious to learn definitively when I can depend upon receiving Mr Livingstons communications so as to fix with Captn Downes the day of sailing. I should be unwilling to have the Vessel detained on my account & therefore renew the suggestion that if for any cause the ~~Vessel~~ Ship can be ~~entirely~~ ready before I am it will be entirely agreeable to me to go in a Packet.[1] ~~I can~~ of this you will judge for me well knowing that I will be perfectly content with whatever course is deemed for the best.

I can add nothing to the course you suggest in regard to the Carolina affair except what will occur to you to see that the inquiries of the agent there be conducted with the greatest caution so as not to cause unecessary excitement—perhaps the agency itself might be dispensed with until the new District Attorney reports to you. The course you propose of a new appointmnt instead of an impeachment &c is certainly preferable & every minute step in a matter of so much delicacy cannot be too deeply considered. Mr Woobury informs me that the news from France is favourable. From the bottom of my heart do I congratulate you upon the good fortune which attends all your public exertions. It is kind in Providence thus to make you amends for the private griefs which are occasioned by the ardor and ~~in~~stability of your private friendships. I shall write you again soon & more fully. Remember me to Major Lewis & Mr Earle & believe me to be Very truly yours

M. Van Buren

P.S. I thank you for Mr Randolphs letter. It is of an unusually friendly & complimentary character—
P.S. I notice your remark about the likeness & sensibly alive to the affection & kindness of which it reminds me & of which nothing could make me more sensible

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr Van Buren—A. J. July 29th. 1831—

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (18-0319).

1. Captain John Downes (1784–1854) commanded the new frigate *Potomac*. Van Buren sailed for Britain on the packet *President* on August 16, while the *Potomac* was ordered to Sumatra to punish the natives' plundering of the merchant ship *Friendship* and murder of her crew. Renowned author Washington Irving (1783–1859) had been secretary of legation at London since 1829. McLane wrote Livingston on July 30 of Irving's wish to resign (DNA-RG 59, M30-33). His replacement, former State Department clerk Aaron Vail (1796–1878), sailed with Van Buren.

From Shabanie

Talk of Chamblie principal Chief of the Ottoway tribe to President Jackson, delivered in presence of a deputation of the United tribe of the Ills. River on the 30th July 1831

Friend and Father,

I have been called by my friends around me, to whisper to you a few words—which we hope will not give offence, as this is not our design—for we never wish to hurt the feelings of any white man

Father—The treaty of 1829, held at Prairie du Chien, is very repugnant to our feelings—and we view it as our duty to tell you of it. We have repeatedly written to you; but to no purpose. In our writing, we have explained to you the manner we had been deprived of our land—and never received any thing for those lands that were apportioned to us by the Great Spirit our common Father. Last year a few of our chiefs went to Chicago, and got a small amount.

Father—I will not tire you with a long story that will probably be slighted as the others have been. I will say no more on the injury done us. We the united tribe of the Illinois river, ask of you as a favour to defray our expenses to Washington, in order to give us an opportunity to see you in person. Let us hear from you soon. In the mean while I take you by the hand for all of us.—in the presence of Peter Menard jr Sub In Agt

Shabanie or Chamblie X Chief

Copy, DNA-RG 75 (M234-642). Copy, DNA-RG 75 (M234-749). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, p. 557 (Serial 245). Shabanie (c1775–1859) was a leading Ottawa chief. By a treaty signed at Prairie du Chien on July 29, 1829, Chippewas, Ottawas, and Potawatomis had ceded lands in northern Illinois and southwest Wisconsin in return for a perpetual annuity of $16,000, payable annually at Chicago, and other considerations. On September 15, 1830, St. Louis Indian superintendent William Clark wrote Secretary of War Eaton, conveying Indian complaints that the treaty was made without their consent and that the promised annuity had not been paid. Clark recommended holding a new council to reconcile the Indians to the treaty and to removal (DNA-RG 75, M234-749). On August 11, 1831, he forwarded this memorial to the War Department. Describing the Indians as justifiably "unhappy and much dissatisfied" with the government's silence at their grievances, he again suggested a new council and that "a liberal allowance be made for the deficiencies of which they complain" (*SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 556–57, Serial 245). Indian bureau chief Samuel S. Hamilton replied to Clark on September 1. He denied the Indians' request to visit Washington and instructed Clark instead to "adjust and satisfy their grievances" himself (DNA-RG 75, M21-7). Pierre (or Peter) Menard Jr. (1797–1871) was the Indian subagent at Peoria.

From "A True Jackson Man"

Norfolk July 30th 1831

Dr Sir

I have been restrained from riting you, knowing my incapability, being and humble, muchanic, working in bublic employment in the Dry Dock at Gosport but am compeld from the purist of motives to inform you of the abuses practised by all in authority at that work and neeeds reform in all the head men and oversers &c

Baldwin the principal Injiner has gone to Boston and soon after he left here he sent a man on here in his place by the name of Parris, he mr Parris is at this time is about to return to Boston what could he have sent him here for he done nothing here but to walk about and go to the Dock when he pleasd. and receive his traveling expences &c I hope such as that will be stopd. Mr Henry Singleton is here to attend to all Business in his absense he is calld. 2d. to Baldwin. Mr. S. was a good house carpenter in the town of portsmouth he was taken in the dock as master joiner at $1200 per yer which is a good salary for him but not satisfied with that he has two horsess and Carts steadily employd. by the day in dock throughout the year and not satisfied with horses and carts he hires Negroes by the yea and puts them in there by the day to exclusion of individuals owning of them &c his hores and carts go out when they please and do as they please and you will find by the acts renderd that they only get $1.50 perd day for hore card and hand but in thruth they get more for the hand that drives the cart answers to his name on the roll and recives an extra pay of 72/100 which brings it up to $2.22 when other individuals that has had there Horses carts and hands halling do only get $1.50 perday and there hands dont answer to there names but the time kept in another way Mr Young the Clerk has a horse and cart in the same way employed by day the throughout the whorle year if they can make money at it; why not the Govermnt save by having there own team these minr Horses are shod at the expense of the goverment besides alway carry out wood or chips when they go home to feed at night and alway do as they please work or play the goverment is charged for there time they horses always look like they are kept for the Carrige than work horses for when they come out they dont look like they have been at work for they are hardly made to swet under the collar it is time it was stop there is a Mr Jonson Master Stone Cutter that get his six Dollar per day throug favour of Baldwin as Jonson is a man that he brought from Boston; Jonson goes to the hirings at the begining of the year and hires Negres by the year put them in the dock at work and he attend more to seeing that his hands are at work than he does to the intrest of goverment and it is hard to find out howmany they have hired for they always answer to the name of there owners &c there is not any man there who has any office but what hires negroes in that way and I belives the most of the oversers hire I say not one with the exception

of Mr Brown, Master stone cutter Sent from Washington he attends to his business that he is paid for by the goverment and wont have any thing to do with hiring of Negroes &c these others are for making all they can and are shaving goverment out of all they can when Singleton went there he was in dept he has paid up some of his depts but not all and has bougth five or six thousand dollars worth of property not in his own Name in others names so as to keep from paying his depts it not resonb[l] that he can make all of that money off $1200 per year and suppor a large family as jinteel as he does &c there is something not rite; as to his politics he is opposed to you and was once very hard toards you and you friends; but the pap he is receving has husd his mouth &c. Baldwin has three students here under pay from govermnt they do nothing and his students are allowed to hire negroes also; at any rate Mr Sanger and Cleveland does as to Mr Prat I cant say he does &c

this thing was onc made known to Mr Branch late Secretary and an investigation was orderd by him through Comadore Barron but Comadore Barron did not try to find out any thing.[1] But these are facts and they aught to be curtaild in there goings on and a naval oficer put there to see that these men should not have things in there power to play on goverment as they please It has sinse there was nothing done with them when that investigaton was orderd by Mr Branch they have been carrying on much worse because the poor Mechanic that is at work there is now affraid to say any thing if he opens his mouth about the misconduct and they hear of it his services is no longer wanted so we are compeld to hush our mouths or have our familys to want I hope you will have thing beter arranged and have these men curtaild in there hiring of Negroes and there horses and Carts &c

A true jackson man

I shall see by there movemts if this is taken any notice of &c

[Endorsed by AJ:] Anonymous—such ought not to be attended to by the administrators of the Government—but an inquiry made of the commandant of the Navy yard, on the specific charges might have a good effect, if they evils exist, they ought to be corrected, if not, such imputations ought to be put down by his report—A. J

The within is returned to the N. Dept—no order upon it necessary—when the Sec. returns, an order may be—to prevent men employed, from hiring negroes for the purpose of bringing them in to the yard &c A. J.

ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-129). Lewis Warrington (1782–1851) had replaced James Barron (1768–1851) as commandant of the Gosport navy yard in May. On August 2, Navy secretary Levi Woodbury sent a copy of this letter to Warrington with instructions to make inquiry (DNA-RG 45, M149-19). On August 15 Warrington made a report rejecting the allegations in detail, which acting secretary John Boyle tendered to AJ on August 18 (DNA-RG

45, M125-162 & M472-1). Warrington also sent a copy of the complaining letter to supervising engineer Loammi Baldwin Jr., who wrote Woodbury on August 19 that its charges were "false, & malicious." Baldwin pointed out that the Navy Department in answer to earlier complaints had approved his employment of slaves at the dry dock; and he praised the invaluable work of assistant engineer Alexander Parris (1780–1852), superintendent Henry Singleton, and junior engineers William P. S. Sanger (1810–1890), Thomas Willis Pratt (1812–1875), and Cleveland (DNA-RG 45, M124-129). William P. Young was clerk of the dry dock. John Wilson wrote AJ with further complaints on September 8 (below).

1. Committees of white stonecutters had protested to Branch on January 6 and April 3, 1830, about the employment of slaves at the dry dock by master stonecutter Samuel R. Johnson (c1789–1852) and by Baldwin (DNA-RG 45, M124-123). Branch replied to the first complaint on March 1, 1830, approving the practice (DNA-RG 45, M209-6). On April 12 he forwarded the second complaint to Barron, who reported on April 30 that it was without merit (DNA-RG 45, M149-18 & M125-147).

August

To Edward Livingston

August 1rst. 1831

The President with his respects to the Secretary of State, & begs leave to bring to his view a regulation adopted at the commencement of ~~my~~ his administration—"That where any officer under the Government, (Clerk or others) contracted debts & have failed to pay them, & ~~took~~ has taken the benefit of the insolvaent debtors act, that he should be forthwith removed." The debt being contracted under this administration. It is reported, that a Mr Ruggles in the Patent office, has been guilty of a violation of this rule. Please have enquiry made, as it appurtains to your department, and if truly reported, as to him, or any others, Let them be removed

[Endorsed by AJ:] Clerks memorandom

AD draft, DLC (39). AD, DNA-RG 59 (M179-71); *The American Journal of International Law* 4 (1910): 598. Lemuel Warner Ruggles (c1793–1835) was a clerk in the Patent Office. In a list he gave to AJ, probably about the time of his June 3 letter above, Robert Mayo named Ruggles as one of sixteen government clerks who had defrauded creditors by taking an oath of insolvency—in Ruggles's case, ten times within a few months (DLC-40, 17-1503; extract in Bassett, 4:291). In the finished version of this note that he sent to Livingston, AJ deleted Ruggles's name but still specified the Patent Office. He wrote Livingston dismissing Ruggles on August 6 (below).

To Edward Livingston

August 1rst. 1831—

The President with his compliments to the Secretary of State, encloses him a letter just recd. from Col A. Butler, for his perusal & consideration, that it may be answered before his proceeding to Newyork—before it is answered, the President wishes an interview with the Secretary.

AN, DNA-RG 59 (M179-71). AJ forwarded Anthony Butler's letter of June 23 (above), to which AJ replied on August 17 (below).

From Stevens Thomson Mason

Detroit Aug 1— 1831

Dear Sir

I send you by the mail of today a paper containing a remonstrance against my appointment, and my reply to it in a hand bill. In the same paper you will find a fair view ~~of~~ taken of my appointment in a communication to the editor.

The history of this excitement is highly disreputable to those concerned in it, and they begin so to feele, except those who are devoid of shame, and who have sinister objects to accomplish. I feel a confidence in being ultimately sustained by the good sense and correct sentiments of the community, and I am assured at this moment, a large portion of the people are ready if called on to sign a petition in my favour. That I have able men to support me I have received from them personal assurance; and although the vindictive malice of some of your enemies & of course mine, may persue me for awhile, I rest satisfied in having a number in my favour to counteract any injurious consequences. An evident reaction is taking place, which brings many to regret their precipitancy. But that in a Territory where there is so large a majority against the administration, and many of them active in getting signatures to their remonstrance, I expect a formidable array of names against me. I shall be enabled though at a proper time, to shew you that my appointment is not of that obnoxious character which violent partisans represent.

I wrote to you a few days since upon this subject, and have to request some advice, which I may stand in need of, to place myself in a just position before those who have a right to inquire into the matter. This will be more needed in the absence of my father.

I should be pleased to hear something from you, that I may not be tortured longer ~~by~~ with the confident assertions of loud brawlers, that you will abandon me to their fate. With every sentiment of affectionate regard, I have the honor to be your Obedeint servant

Stevens Thomson Mason

ALS draft, MiU-H (mAJs). Mason enclosed copies of the July 26 Detroit memorial condemning his appointment as Michigan territorial secretary, his July 28 handbill in response, and a July 27 letter to the *Detroit Courier* from Isaac Springer Rowland (1811–1850) defending Mason's appointment and testifying to his competence (DNA-RG 46). Rowland had been clerk in the secretary's office under Mason's father. On August 12 Mason wrote Livingston, enclosing more papers and branding his critics as "violent opponents of the Administration." AJ read and endorsed that letter. On August 16 Mason sent Livingston a list of the signers of the memorial against him, identifying most as either rabid Clay partisans or "boys, and Aliens and French & Irish who can neither read or write" (DNA-RG 59, M639-15; *TPUS*, 12:330–31, 335–40). AJ nominated Mason when Congress convened in December, and the Senate confirmed him on June 21, 1832, by 29 to 13. He was elected Michigan's first state governor in 1835.

Epigraph Regarding the Hermitage

The Hermitage is my choice

[Endorsed by Nicholas P. Trist:] Back of a letter from Martin Van Buren, recd. Aug. 1. 1831. The words in Andrew Jackson's hand were written to-day, to try his pen, on being asked to write that sentence, with a view to the fac-simile being attached to Pendleton's Lithography of R. E. W. Earl's small full-length.

N. P. T.
Aug. 1st. 1831.

AD, THi (18-0329). AJ's first known use of the phrase "the Hermitage is my choice" was in the letter to Adam Huntsman published in the *Globe* on June 15. That letter, which only survives in its published version, appeared without date but was evidently written December 7, 1830 (*Jackson Papers*, 8:682). AJ wrote this inscription on an envelope addressed to him by Van Buren and postmarked in New York on July 30, possibly containing Van Buren's July 29 letter above. The lithograph, published in 1832, was engraved by John Henry Bufford (1810–1870) of the Boston firm Pendleton's Lithography, headed by brothers William S. Pendleton (1795–1879) and John B. Pendleton (1798–1866). Based on an 1830 painting by Ralph E. W. Earl, it depicted AJ standing outdoors at the Hermitage. A facsimile of AJ's signature, but no epigraph, appeared beneath.

From John Thompson Gray

Louisville Ky 2nd. Augt. 1831

Sir

I now sit down to redeem my promise of last evening. The Polls of this City closed this evening as follows:

Thruston . .	1020	}		House of Representatives	
Wickliff . .	577	}	443	James Rudd . .	936
Senate				Jno. B Bland . . .	626
Genl. Crist . .	880	}			310
Jas. Guthrie . .	698	}	182		

Genl. Crist is a citizen of Bullitt County and has been in a state of *retiracy* for the last fifteen years and at the time of his offering was not known to 30 persons in this city. So you may plainly infer that Jacksonism is declining fast—your infamous proscription together with the mismanagement of the Post office department (which I have taken upon myself to expose) has contributed mainly to use up Jackson in this city, and last but not least the blowup of the cabinet and Mr. Berian & Mr. Inghams expose of the cause of its dissolution. These precious documents did not reach us until the day before the Election but it acted like an electric shock.

We lost no time in having a number of them printed in Extra's and distributed in city and country. They will have a very great effect. Messrs. Rudd & Bland the candidates for the house of Representatives are Gentlemen of about equal capacity both mechanicks the first a house joiner and painter the latter a tinner and coppersmith both wealthy men. The water courses are so high that we have not succeeded in getting returns from all the counties and precinths the first day.

Mr. Wicklifliff produced a statement this mornig giving him a Majority in the district of 215 votes Some doubt the correctness of this statement & it is not vouched for by Mr. Wickliff himself

I will write you again tomorrow night and will give you the final result as far as I can ascertain it with certainty. I wish you would let Major Barry see this letter and tell him that his dirty work has assisted very much in giving this majority in this city against your friends[.] Yours

John T Gray
Reformed Post Master
Louisville Ky

ALS, DLC (39). Gray (1782–1845) had been Louisville postmaster for many years before being replaced ("reformed") by John P. Oldham in May 1829. He may have been the author of an attack on AJ's partisan patronage in Kentucky, focusing on his postal removals and appointments, that ran in the *Louisville Daily Journal* on May 23, 1831, and the Washington *Daily National Journal* on June 3. In elections held August 1–3, Jacksonian congressman Charles Anderson Wickliffe (1788–1869) won reelection over Clay candidate Charles Mynn Thruston (1792–1854). Jacksonian James Guthrie (1792–1869) defeated Henry Crist (1764–1844) for the state senate, and Clay candidate James Rudd (1789–1867) defeated Jacksonian John Buckner Bland (c1787–1868) for the state house of representatives. Gray wrote AJ again on August 3 (below).

From John Reynolds

Belleville 2nd. August 1831—

Sir

This day I had the honor of receiving your letter of the 16th *ult*. And I presume such information as will be a complete answer to it has long since been laid before you so that it is useless for me to trouble you again with a recapitulation.

I had the honor of addressing a letter dated 7th. July last to the Secretary of the Department of War and to which I would refer your Excellency, on the subject of the necessity of the call on the militia, and the force necessary to be employed in the expedition to Rock River against the Indians.[1]

Dureing the whole Indian disturbance, it was almost impossible to ascertain the exact number of Indians who were determined to fight. In this situation, I deemed it my duty, to call out such force, and to be with

them myself, as could not be overpowered by any number of Indians on the frontier.

I considered it proper for the protection of the frontier, and to chastise the insolencet and hostile Savage with *speed*, to furnish General Gaines with the force I did, on the requisition he made to me.

Since the return of the militia, I have been petitioned by the citizens to remove a small number of Indians, who were doing damage to the property of the white people. I informed the Superintendent in St. Louis of it, and he has sent an Agent to request the Indians to leave the State.[2] The people in the northern section of the State are much annoyed with the Indians, and will be, until they are settled on the west side of the Missisippi on their own lands. The policy of the present administration of the General Government to remove the Indians west of the Missisippi is correct, and I will support it all in my power. It is much better for the Indians to live separate, and apart from the white people.

For the good of all concerned I would respectfully suggest to you the propriety of removing all the Indians in the State of Illinois to the west of the Missisippi. This aught to be effected in a peaceable manner—and could be, if the proper measures were taken with them. I am informed, that the impression made on the Indians is, that the United States will protect them in living and hunting in the State. If they were informed, that the State had the power from the General Government, or otherwise, to remove them, they would, in my opinion, go off, of their own accord, in peace.

For the good of the public, I would be much pleased to receive a communication of the views of the General Government in relation to the Indians within the State. With Sincere regard for you and your administration I am your obt. Servt.

John Reynolds

ALS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-757). LC, I-Ar; Copy, DNA-RG 46; Copy, DNA-RG 233 (18-0401). *HRDoc* 2, 22d Cong., 1st sess., pp. 190–91 (Serial 216). *Black Hawk War*, 2:121–23. Reynolds wrote again on August 15 (below).

1. Reynolds had written the War Department on July 7, explaining that the invasion by Black Hawk's band and the hostile disposition of all the frontier Indians had put Illinois in "'imminent danger'" and justified his calling out a preemptively strong force of mounted militia. "This efficient and bold movement intimidated the Indians, and compeled them to abandon their hostile attitude without blood shed" (*Black Hawk War*, 2:104–5).

2. Reynolds had written both William Clark in St. Louis and Peoria subagent Pierre Menard Jr. on July 21 about a July 9 petition from 49 Shelby County citizens complaining about depredations on their stock committed by a hunting party of Kickapoo Indians. On July 23, Clark sent acting Kickapoo subagent Augustin Kennerly (1794–1857) to urge the Kickapoos to "pack up and without delay move out of the State of Illinois" (DNA-RG 75, M234-749). Reynolds wrote Clark on August 5 thanking him for his prompt action. Meanwhile, on August 4, Kennerly reported to Clark that the Kickapoos refused to leave, that the complaints against them were false, and that the complainants were idlers despised by the "better class of people" (I-Ar; *Black Hawk War*, 2:122–24).

From William Savin Fulton

Little Rock August 3rd. 1831—

Dear Sir,

I understand that Col: Benjn. Desha the receiver of public monies at this place either has or will in a short time, tender to you his resignation of the office he holds, and it is conjectured here that he has recommended as his successor Col: Absalom Fowler formerly of Tennessee. Either this young man, or some other friend of Mr. Crittenden it is conjectured will be recommended by Col: Desha; as he is the devoted friend of Mr. C. himself. Col: Desha was the candidate of the same party, for Delegate to congress, in opposition to Col: Sevier at the election just over, and has run within two votes of him in this county. I have no fears of Col: Seviers election; if however, he is defeated, Mr. Crittenden and his friends, may be considered as triumphant in this Territory. Col: Desha is an honorable man and is friendly to your administration, but his attachments in the Territory, are mainly confined, to those who belong to what is called here, the Crittenden party. All his recommendations for office, would be I fear, in favor of persons attached to that party; and, this statement is made, to place you in possession of the true state of things here.[1]

I avail myself of this occasion to say that it is all important that the appropriation for the pay of the members of the Legislature be forwarded in small drafts (say of five hundred dollars each) at as early a period as possible. It will not be in the power of the agent, to cash the drafts at this place if the drafts sent, are for large sums. I had to send to New Orleans in 1830, for the purpose of getting the money, to pay the members of the Legislature; the drafts being for more than three thousand dollars; which sum could not be procured in this country. My account for this *necessary*, expense, has been rejected at the Treasury, as also an allowance for my services as disbursing agent; concerning which, I have transmitted explanations to Mr. Anderson, and I hope the account will yet be allowed.[2]

There is at this time in the possession of the Receiver of Public monies at this place, between two and three thousand dollars, and it is supposed the amount will be increased between this time and the first of October. If this money could be appropriated, to the payment of the members of the Legislature, it might be retained here, upon instructions to the land Officers, from the Commissioner of the Genl. Land office. Such an arrangement would prevent much difficulty in placing the necessary funds at this place, to meet the appropriation for the payment of the expenses of the next Session of our Legislature.

Govr. Pope is not expected to return until the first of October. You must excuse this hurried communications, I am by no means in good health. Remember us affectionately to all friends & believe me ever yours

William S. Fulton

[Endorsed by AJ:] ~~This is~~ Judge Fulton—altho private is submitted to the secretary of the T. for his information, and that a remittence may be made in due time for the payment of the Legislative Council. The Sec. of the T. will please return this letter after being noted by him. A J

ALS, DLC (39). *TPUS*, 21:360–61. Fulton (1795–1844) was the secretary of Arkansas Territory, appointed by AJ in 1829.

1. Benjamin Desha (1790–1835), nephew of Robert Desha of Tennessee, had been receiver of the Little Rock land office since 1824. AJ removed him for Archibald Yell on November 10. In an election held August 1, incumbent Ambrose H. Sevier had defeated Desha for territorial delegate to Congress. In Pulaski County, including Little Rock, Sevier beat Desha 212 to 210. Robert F. Crittenden (1797–1834) had been secretary, and sometimes acting governor, of Arkansas Territory from its organization in 1819 until AJ removed him for Fulton in 1829. Absalom Fowler (1806–1859) was a Little Rock attorney.

2. Joseph I. Anderson was first comptroller of the Treasury.

From John Thompson Gray

Louisville Ky 3rd. August 1831

Sir

Under the blessings of a divine providence we have been again permitted to exercise that inestimable blessing of giving our sufrages to whom we pleased. And for which right I have been made to pay so dearly by you and your minions and miscreants and for the like conduct you and your ~~minions and miscreants~~ Penny dogs will be made to retire from the stations which you are now filling with so little credit to yourselves or good to the nation.[1] But to my purpose the polls of the election for this city is finally closed on the 3rd. and last day and stand thus

For Congress.	C. M. Thruston	1209	House of Representatives	
	C. A. Wickliff	686	James Rudd (Clay)	1104
State Senate	James Guthrie	835	John B Bland (Jack)	741
	Henry Crist	1023		

So you see that Thruston has beaten Wickliff 523 votes
and Genl. Crist has beat Mr. Guthrie 188 votes

in his own City and within sight of the smoke of his own Chimney. This I think must satisfy you that the people of this city are determined to put their veto upon Proscription, upon the wanton waste and expendature of the Public money, upon the appointment of your unqualified friends to office as a reward for their support of you, upon the mismanagement of the Post office department, upon your premature interfereance to put down the u states Bank and establishing a commonwealth rag bank in its stead, and that, under the Control of Jackson Kendall & Co., upon the

dismissal of your Cabinet, upon the malign influence exercised at the seat of Government, And by the very great violation committed upon Granny Ingham under your own eye and by and with your advice and consent (is supposed by some). The Hickory saddle has become as smoothe as glass and not even Van Burin could ride it in our city. Give my respects to Major Berry (as you call him and tell him I believe all Sam Brown says of him is true. I hope never again to have occasion to trouble you on this subject. I have the honor to subscribe myself your most obedient Servant

John T Gray
Reformed Post Master at Louisville Ky

ALS, DLC (39). Gray's totals were for the city of Louisville only. Overall, Wickliffe defeated Thruston and Guthrie defeated Crist.

1. A penny dog is a hanger-on or sycophant.

From Martin Van Buren

New York, *August 3rd, 1831.*

My dear Sir:—

Our mutual friend, Mr. McLane retains his preference for the Bench, and will, if Duval dies, be pleased with the appointment to supply the vacancy. It is for obvious reasons my earnest hope that the opportunity to gratify him in this respect, if it is to occur during your administration, may be delayed until it is near its close. The sacrifices which he has been obliged to make by his Mission increase the necessity of his obtaining as permanent and as little expensive an employment as he can, and the extent of his family leaves him, as he thinks, but little option as to his course in the event of the happening of the contingency referred to.

Believing that I understand your feelings towards him I have taken the liberty of assuring him that there is no object nearer your heart than to promote his interest and that no considerations that could be suggested can increase that desire. Very truly yours,

M. Van Buren

Printed, *The Autobiography of Martin Van Buren*, pp. 578–79 (18-0417). Gabriel Duvall (1752–1844) of Maryland was a Supreme Court justice. In the *Autobiography*, Van Buren related that he had earlier procured for Louis McLane a promise from AJ to appoint him to the Court if Duvall died or resigned. To reinforce the promise, he gave McLane this letter to hand to AJ in person; but McLane, feeling what he called "an insuperable delicacy" about soliciting one office while assuming another, returned it to Van Buren, asking him to send it himself to counter the expected rival candidacy of Roger Taney. Van Buren then sent the letter to AJ with his of August 15, below (Van Buren *Autobiography*, pp. 577–80).

To Benjamin Chew Howard

[Phrases in brackets are corrections and insertions in Jackson's hand.]

Private.

Washington, August 4 1831.

My Dear Sir,

I have just received yours of the 19th. Ulto. and, for the frankness and friendship which characterises the communication of the information it contains, I make you a tender of my thanks. It is proper (as I shall be frank in my reply) to remark in reference to Mr. Calhoun that he *once* so fully possessed my confidence and friendship that, when I was installed as President, I consulted him, as I did my Cabinet, on matters pertaining to my office. It was but a short time after the formation of my cabinet before I perceived the existence of a disposition, on the part of certain *poleticians*, to drive Majr Eaton from it, and, when I considered that he was only induced to accept a station in it, by my earnest solicitations, I could not regard, in a very favourable light, the attempts to force him from me, [when it was well known the confidence I had in him.] I therefore immediately checked them by giving the members of the Cabinet distinctly to understand that nothing could induce me to seperate from Majr. Eaton, and, as all had entered my Cabinet harmoniously, that any who could not still harmonise had better withdraw. This attempt would never, in my opinion, have been revived but for the fact of my having detected Mr. Calhoun in his Schemes of duplicity and intrigue, and the conviction on the part of himself and friends that Major Eaton would not aid in his elevation to the Presidency.

When about to organize my first Cabinet, I tendered the Office of Secretary of War to my friend Judge White; but the situation of his family determined him to decline its acceptance. Knowing, as I did, the necessity of having some one near me in whom I *knew* I could, with safety, confide, I was induced to persuade Majr. Eaton—the only capable man remaining, who had my *entire* confidence—to accept it. The conduct of three of my former Cabinet fully manifests the correctness of my reflections and the propriety of my course on this Subject. If the correspondence between Mr. Calhoun and myself had resulted in its effect to produce the realization of "the hopes of the opposition" or the "apprehensions" of the democratic party, the responsibility of it must have rested with others and not on me. It never would have occured, if Mr. Calhoun had not been secretly manoevering to accomplish my destruction, while, as I have before intimated, he professed to entertain for me feelings of the strongest friendship. I was informed again and again that it was Mr. Calhoun, and not Mr. Crawford, who made the motion for my arrest or punishment in the Secret cabinet council. This assertion I could not believe; but, when I received the assurance of its truth [as coming] from a Source so near President Munroe, I

became desireous of Seeing a Statement on the subject said to have been prepared by Mr. Crawford. I was well convinced that, if the allegations in respect to Mr. Calhoun's conduct were true, he had acted towards me with great duplicity, and was therefore capable of persueing, at that time, the same line of Conduct. It is no part of my disposition to harbour unpleasant suspicions against one whom I regard my friend, and, it is painfull in the extreem, when circumstances compell me to entertain apprehensions of impropriety in the conduct of such an individual. You can now readily perceive the motive which induced me to Solicit the perusal of Mr. Crawford's statement, and, with my usual frankness, to submit it to Mr. Calhoun. The great surprise of which I was the subject, when he acknowledged his guilt and added insult to injury by insisting that I had transcended my orders, can more easily be imagined than expressed. Mr. Calhoun had a right to act in the Cabinet concil according to the dictates of his own judgement; but, so long as a single spark of honor animates my bosom, I cannot conceed to him the right of acting diametrically opposite to his professions. He knew that my orders were a *Chart Blanch*, and that I, as he explained in a letter to Govr. Bibb, was authorised to conduct the ~~Seminole Campaign as I pleased~~ [war as I might think best]. He was in the full confidence of Mr. Munroe, and *must* have known that Mr. J. Rhea had, in obedience to the instructions of Mr. Munroe, informed me that the President fully concured in the views expressed in my confidential letter of the 6th. Jany. 1818, and which Mr. Calhoun has published without my consent. Aside from the intimacy which existed between Mr. Munroe and Mr. Calhoun, we have the declaration of the latter that he read and handed this letter to the President with the remark that it was on the affairs of Florida and required his attention and answer. It, however, happened that, for some cause which you may conjecture, Mr. J. Rhea (then in Congress [& at its close in 1819]) was sent to me to request that I would burn the confidential letter which he wrote to me, at the instance of Mr. Munroe, in answer to mine of the 6th. of Jany. 1818. Not suspecting any improper design on the part of any one, and, believing that Mr. Munroe and Mr. Calhoun would, if it became necessary, state the contents of this letter of Mr. Rheas which was written in persuance of their wishes, I consented to burn it, and accordingly did so, on my return home. This promise ~~was~~ [had been mad] known to Mr. Calhoun [as I believe,] and, he therefore presumed that, as the letter was destroyed, he could now insist that I had transcended my orders, and that I could not perhaps establish the fact that I had ever recd. a letter of that description. In this he has been mistaken as I have, in my possession, incontravertable evidence of the fact. You may remember that I Stated [in the correspondence,] in a reply to one of Mr. Calhoun's letters, that, when time would permit, and the documents were at hand, I would give an expose of this matter very different from the colouring which he found it necessary to give it. This pledge I will, at a proper time, redeem, & I entertain no fears as to the result. Could I any longer have confidence in

Mr. Calhoun after I was [thus] convinced of his deception, &c.? He hoped by the publication of his *book*, through the influence of his Agents Duff Green, Ingham, Branch & Berrien, &c. to distract the republican party, to prostrate me, and thus step into the Presidential chair.

He could not brook the idea of my re-election, and feared that Mr. Van Buren would acquire too much popularity by his asidious [& faithful] discharge of the duties confided to him: Hence Mr. Calhoun's willingness to prevent, *secretly*, the confirmation of some of my nominations to the senate, to defeat the passage of certain national measures which I recommended to Congress, and finally the effort to convince the people that Mr. Van Buren was [a plotter,] an "intriguer," &c. and [by these false reports to] drive him from my Cabinet. You are pleased to remark that Mr. Ingham was my original friend, my champion, when champions were needed [Pennsylvania never so understood him]; and that he could not be forgotten. We are only entitled to merit and consideration for our actions when they are prompted by pure and correct motives & based upon principle. The whole career of Mr. Ingham, Duff Green, &c., since my election, convinces me that they only supported me for the purpose of prostrating Adams and Clay and paving the way to the gratification of Mr. Calhoun's restless ambition. I regret, as much as you can, that these men have proven themselves unworthy of my confidence. I think you are mistaken in supposing that the reorganization of my Cabinet will not secure concert of action and harmony in its councils. Under the impression that Messers Lewis & Kendall are the "*adherents* and *partizans*" of Mr. Van Buren, you suggest the propriety of their retirement from Office in order to secure harmony. This is an opinion, which, I have no doubt, you honestly entertain; but the conduct of these gentlemen, so far as my observation enables me to determine, will not authorize the conclusion that they are or have been the partizans of Mr. Van Buren ~~or any other person~~. It is true [that from his high order of talents, his frankness & pure republican principles he has, as he deserves, the confidence of all who appreciate true merit, and it is also true] that charges of this description have been made against them; but where and when has any proof been adduced sufficient to sustain them? It is my fixed determination, so far as I can, to prevent any interference in the State elections or the "making of Presidents," on the part of the officers of the general government. These are matters which belong *exclusively* to the people who are sufficiently enlightened to make their own Selections. But while I act on this principle would it not be unjust to remove competent and faithfull officers, in whom I had confidence, merely because they are charged by their enemies with being the partizans of this or that man? Which of my friends is it that is not charged in the same manner?

When I am convinced of an impropriety in the conduct of *any* public officer, I will, regardless of consequences, discharge my duty; but I cannot consent to remove these men on the *ipse dixit*[1] of those whose interest it is to misrepresent their conduct. I feel well assured that you would not

require me to observe any other course of conduct than that which I have prescribed to myself. It is correct in principle and therefore must, as it doubless does, meet your approbation. In conclusion I will barely state that the "expose" of Ingham, Berrien, &c., is of itself sufficient evidence to convince the minds of all unprejudiced men that they have *combined* together to injure me, and will not hesitate to assert any thing (however false it may be) in order to accomplish their purpose. It is unfortunate that, when conversing with these men, I had not always had with me an individual who could correct their gross misrepresentations and vile slanders. Truth must however eventually prevail notwithstanding the difficulties against which She has often to strugle, [and permit me to assure you that Ingham is prostrate in his own state, & Berriens course meets the frowns of all good men. I am with great respect yr mo. obdt. servt.

A J.

P.S. I write in great haste surrounded with business—the duties of my office gives me but little time for friendship. A. J.]

LS draft in George Breathitt's hand, DLC (73). Howard (1791–1872) was a Baltimore congressman.

1. Latin for "he himself said it," meaning a statement supported only by the word of the speaker.

From Martin Van Buren

Nyork August 4 1831

My dear Sir

I write this to you in the belief that Mr Livingston may have left Washington before it reaches that place. The proposed change in the destination of the Potomac, makes it decidedly most proper that I should go in the Packet & I shall forthwith take my passage in that of the 16th Inst. If Mr Livingston should have decided to wait for Mr McLane (who will be with you on Saturday) I wish you would ask him to do me the favor to let me know by return mail, with as much celerity as he can, the time when I may expect to meet him here. If he has left you, please let Mr Trist write me, as I presume you are busy. Do not my dear Sir disregard my suggestions in relation to a short absence from Washington. The anxiety of your friends to keep you as much as possible disconnected with passing altercations is most intense, & nothing would create a more agreeable sensation in the public mind, in this quarter than to learn that you were bestowing the necessary attention upon your health. I have written to the Secy of the navy by todays mail & will do so again to you very soon. In the mean time believe me to be truly yours

M Van Buren

P.S. accept my warmest acknowledg[emen]ts for this renewed evidence of your kindness in submitting the question as to the manner of my going out to my own discretion & for your desire to give importance to my *[. . .]* as expressed in Mr Livingstons letter.

ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M30-34). AJ replied on August 8 (below). Informed by Livingston of the *Potomac*'s new mission in the Pacific, Van Buren wrote Woodbury this day, August 4, offering to spare her delay by taking the packet to England instead (DNA-RG 45, M124-129). On August 9, Woodbury ordered Captain Downes of the *Potomac* to proceed directly to Sumatra to punish an assault on the American merchantman *Friendship* (DNA-RG 45, M149-20).

To Andrew Jackson Donelson

—Private—

Washington Agust 6th. 1831—

Dear Andrew

You have seen, ere this, in the public journals, the correspondence between the Editor of the Globe & Mr Berrien, and also the statement of Mr Ingham—with Governor Branch's confirmation of the statement of Berrien generally, without any specification of what part of Berriens, he alluded to; and you will have seen in the Tellegraph of last evening, Mr Branchs statement wherein he says, that at the meeting requested by me of Ingham Branch & Berrien, that there was no paper read to him by me.[1] It would seem, that, the various meetings Mr Berrien says, he had with Ingham & Branch were to *compare notes*, that no *inconsistancy* might appear; it is supposed they were, rather, to make ~~an~~ agreements, that they should certify, & swear for each other, as occasion might require—for Mr Ingham states in his expose made several days before any thing was said in the Globe, that Col Johnston, told him I had prepared a statement in writing, *which I had read to him*, and which on the proposed meeting, I intended to read to them. The fact is, I had so prepared the paper, read it to Col Johnson, & at the meeting with Ingham, Branch & Berrien from the same paper in my hand, made the statement to them, it was reduced to writing by the advice of my faithful friends that nothing should be said on the occasion but what was proper for me to say, & to correct any improper conceptions that might be taken up by any one. Surely there never was any man, who was surrounded by three as unworthy, faithless, & dishonorable men. Ingham is disgraced, & Berrien is equally so. The *southern Hotspur*, on Major Eatons call, has proven *craven*, as I am informed, or, in other words, *has refused to meet Eaton*.[2] But anough of this; the object of this letter, is to request you to give me, the information derived from Mr Branch Mr Ingham, or Berriens conversation with you, so far as it was not confidential, for altho they have violated all confidence reposed, & has stated things positively untrue, (indeed, Mr Ingham has

put on the character of *a real roudy*) still my son, nothing that was given to you in confidence, do I want you to disclose, but what I wish you to relate is, whether in the conversation with you on the subject of the interview with me, Mr Branch did not relate that I made the following statement—to wit, after giving them the information derived from members of Congress of the combination formed with a Foreign lady, & them, to degrade major Eaton & his family, and also, the parties being given as predicted, and Major Eaton & his family not invited, whether Governor Branch, Ingham &c, did not relate, the following as the statement made by me to them—after we met & the reasons as above stated given, ~~them~~ as the ~~reasons~~ cause for the interview with them, from the paper in my hand—*I said to them*—That the course pursued by them towards Major Eaton & his family as reported to me, (and before related to them) ~~me~~, was in my opinion under the circumstances not only unjust in itself, but disrespectful to myself. The ground upon which this opinion is founded are substantially these. I do not claim the right to interfere in any manner in the domestic relations, or personal intercourse of any member of my cabinet, nor have I in any way attempted it. But from information, and my own observation on the general course of events I am fully impressed with a belief that you & your families, have in addition to the exercise of their own undoubted rights in this respect, taken measures to induce others to avoid intercourse with Mrs. Eaton, and thereby sought to exclude her from society, and degrade him. It is impossible for me, upon the fullest and most dispasionate view & consideration of this subject, to regard this course in any other light than a wanton disregard of my feelings, & a reproach of my official conduct. It is I, that have without solicitation or desire on his part, called Major Eaton into my Cabinet, & it is I, that with the fullest conviction of the injustice of the imputations which, as I firmly believe malice & envy have cast upon his wife, continue him there. If her character is such as to justify active measures on the part of the members of my Cabinet to exclude her from virtuous society, it is I, who am responsible to the community for this alledged indignity to public morales. I will not part with Major Eaton from my Cabinet, and those of it, who cannot harmonise with him had better retire, for harmony I must have in my Cabinet. It is vain to attempt to disguise the true aspect of the question, and it is not in my nature to do so if I could; nor can I consent to harbour any feelings toward those with whom I am in the daily association, without distinctly expressing and apprising them of those opinions. My whole life has been at variance with such a course, and I am too old to practice it now. I must cease to respect myself when I find I am capable of it. Therefore have I sought this interview to assure you, if there are any truth in the report that you have entered into the combination charged, to drive Major Eaton from ~~the~~ my Cabinet, that I feel it an indignity and insult offered to myself, and is of a character, that will remain hereafter to be considered. I ask you to give to me, Mr Branches, and others, relations,

of what passed at the interview, and whether it was not substantially as above stated—and whether they did not admit in their reply, that they denied having any intention to degrade Eaton & his family, or do them any injury in society; that they, situated as they were, would be the last men to attempt such a thing—and whether it was not named, by Mr Ingham, that he could not controle his wife as to her social intercourse &c &c—and if Mr Branch Ingham &c has not on all occasions when speaking of this matter admitted, that in my reply I protested against any interference in such matters, that it was the right of all to select their society, but all I wanted was harmony in my Cabinet, that I would have, and he and all others might rest assured I never would part with major Eaton, or should he be drove out of my Cabinet by any combination that had, or might be formed against him. It was again repeated by they Gentlemen, that they would be the last men who would do any act with a design to injure Major Eaton, and hereafter their course would be such as to prevent such idea being formed by members of Congress &c &c &c. If you are with Mjr Bell, I would thank you to submit this to him, and ask him if Govr Branch has not on all occasions, in conversation with him, acknowledged the facts I have stated here, to have been those I stated to him Ingham &c.

I believe there are not an honest man in society who has not approbated the disolution of my Cabinet, and none there are, that does not admit, how unfaithful ~~these three men~~ Mr Ingham & Berrien have acted towards me. I am sure Govr Branch to me, will not deny the statement here made, and whilst making it, I held the paper open in my hand from which I read it, whether Mr Branch or Ingham saw it or not—is the truth

Make my kind respects to Emily & the sweet dear little ones & to all friends & believe me affectionately yours

Andrew Jackson

P.S. I will be happy to receive your reply as early as convenient. It is said Col Johnstons is on his way hither, they Citizens are preparing a dinner for him at Philadelphia.[3] *Berrien will not like to see him,* he has had anough with Eaton & more than he will like for the Hotspurs of the south to know.

[Endorsed by AJ Donelson:] Recd. Oct. 14th. 1831 at Washington city

ALS, DLC-Donelson Papers (18-0451). Copy, NjP (18-0459). This letter, sent to Donelson after he had (unbeknownst to AJ) left Tennessee, was apparently forwarded back to him in Washington—probably by John C. McLemore, to whom Donelson wrote on October 20: "Uncle had not informed me of the letter which you sent me from him. It is fortunate that I did not receive it. My answer might not then have been satisfactory. one is not now necessary" (Donelson Papers, DLC; 18-1070).

1. Berrien's public address in the July 23 *Telegraph* quoted a letter he had just received from Branch, written July 20, confirming in general terms Berrien's recollection of their January 27, 1830, meeting with Richard M. Johnson. On August 5, the *Telegraph* published

Branch's August 1 letter denying that AJ had read or alluded to any paper in his private interview on January 29, 1830.

2. Eaton had challenged Berrien to a duel on July 25, charging that Berrien's publication gave "countenance and sanction to the base slanders" about Eaton's "domestic relations." Berrien replied on July 29 declining an immediate acceptance. In his September 15 *Candid Appeal to the American Public*, Eaton published his challenge and accused Berrien of refusing out of cowardice and guilty conscience.

3. The August 5 *Globe* had published proceedings of a Philadelphia meeting inviting Richard M. Johnson to attend a public dinner.

To Edward Livingston

Washington, August 6. 1831.

Sir.

Lemuel W. Ruggles Esqr., Clerk in the "Patent Office," is hereby dismissed from Office as it has been reported to me that he has taken the benefit of the Insolvent debtor's Act for debts contracted *during* my administration. The heads of Departments are charged to report all clerks, who are guilty of the same conduct, to the President for dismissal. Very Respectfully

Andrew Jackson

LS in George Breathitt's hand, DNA-RG 59 (M179-71). *The American Journal of International Law* 4 (1910): 598. On this day, AJ sent identically worded directives to the Treasury, War and Navy Departments to report for dismissal any clerk who had used the Insolvent Debtor's Act of March 3, 1803, to escape debts contracted during AJ's administration. Under this law, a person jailed for debt within the District of Columbia could win release by swearing an oath to deliver up all his property (*Statutes*, 2:237–41).

From Worden Pope

Louisville Augt 6th 1831

Dear Sir

It is not my wish or intention to trouble you. I expect my communications to go, with you, for no more than they are worth. You are indentured, in a high responsibility, with the interests of the Union. You need nay cannot do without the aid of *friends* to administer the Government, for your own Glory and the happiness of the Nation. In writing to you I keep in view, that we are *friends, and Citizens* of a common Country; and but exercise a privilege granted by you. I ask no answers in return. Each letter is the first draught and *no copy* is preserved. With these preliminary remarks I will state some matters for your own Eye.

It was the object of your enemies, to obtain against you majorities in the senate and House of representatives of the United States and in the Legislatures of the states. I was aware that we should have a dreadful

conflict in Kentucky; and that a great battle would be fought here, to defeat Wickliffe. Our adversaries had no man of talents and influence, in their ranks, who could run in sight of Wickliffe. Mr. Thruston, my brother-in-law, was *flattered* into an opposition to Wickliffe.[1] It was done to effect a division, between Thruston & myself and our friends. It was a sore event to me. My sons remained with me. We were successful, in all but our city representative. In him we are beaten. The conduct of our enemies was *shameful*. The polls were opened at the unusual hour of between seven and eight OClock in the morning. Sixty or seventy voters were concealed, in the court-House, and permitted to vote before those from without, were admitted. The place of admission was blocked up by Clay-Bullies and those who had voted, against Jackson voters, for nearly the whole of the first day. I twice informed the Judges, without effect, of the conduct of those Bullies. Sixty or seventy Clay-voters were admitted by a back window, and voted, at the very time a violent struggle was going on at the door to obtain admission. In this manner, and with the *influence* of the Bank, our adversaries obtained a great majority in the City. I had a *personal conflict*, with an *arrogant* merchant of this place, who was with and encouraging the Bullies; and which opened the way to a more equal exercise of suffrage on the part of our friends.

It was the *influence* of the Bank which beat us, in this City. The merchants, mechanicks and Steam Boat characters are greatly indebted to, and interested in that Institution. The *fears* of debtors mechanicks and the laboring classes were operated upon. This course was commenced, and carried on, *secretly* for about two weeks before the Election. They were told that the question was "No Bank" or "Jackson." Their printed Ticket, was headed, "protection to home industry, Internal improvements, Commerce, Bank of the United States;" *for the City*. This was not on their Ticket for the County. The party publicky, hura'd for "Thruston and the Bank." Altho' the opposition has been defeated at this point, yet it is believed that they have obtained a majority in Congress, and in our state-Legislature. But I feel certain that their success will not answer Mr Clays objects. It may keep others off, and Mr Clay on the turf. This is what I want.

I must be candid. It is the duty of honor & friendship. I did most seriously and painfully regret that the *Bank* had any place in your message To me, it seemed premature and unnecessary. But we could have weathered its effects here had it not have been for Mr Blairs attack on this Branch. The charge was untrue and it enabled our opponents to wield it against and attack us here. On the subject of the re-charter of the Bank, you already know my deliberate and fixed opinion. I fear the recurrence of the events, to which birth was given, nearly all over the Union, by the refusal to re-charter the Old Bank in 1811. Few men can contend for fundamental law, in opposition to expediency. The proof of this, is found, in the rejection of the act for re-charter in 1811 and the charter of the

present Bank, in 1816. Ignorance is always controuled by expediency. *Necessity* for a thing overrules the soundest understandings. If you should reject the charter of a Bank it would be granted the very first session after you retire. If this Bank shall expire, every state will charter Banks the frauds and the depreciated paper of which, will drive the people, as in 1816, to a like Bank. You are not responsible for the construction given to the constitution, on that subject. That instrument, like all others, must receive expositions; and that has been the case twice in reference to the Bank. Mr Madison whose wisdom, prudence and patriotism ought not to be questioned, yielded to it.

Let us grant, that the Bank may be *rendered dangerous*, can we not shear it of its dangerous beams? Can it not be deprived of the power of doing wrong? Is it not in the hands of the Government, like the clay in the potters hands, to be moulded at pleasure? Can we not charter a rival Bank, and leave them, like two Bullies, to manage each other? There is ample capital in the Union for two such Banks; and the public deposits may be divided between them. If under proper *checks* the two rival Banks may still be *dangerous*, is it not less so than the State-Banks would be, *unchecked*, by National ones. My judgment and feeble and limitted mind, is in the affirmative.

I look with great solicitude to the assemblage of your new cabinet, at Washington. I am pleased with the members; and believed it to be able and honest, I feel confident, that union, harmony wisdom and vigor, will govern the public councils. I consider it very felicitous that none of the members have *longings* for the presidency, nor connections with Clay, Calhoun, Van Buren or McLean, as aspirants to that station. The dissolution of the former Cabinet, and the matters, improperly connected with it, have done much harm. They have had a great influence on the Kentucky Elections. Mr Calhoun was a long time, building up an interest, in Kentucky as a rival to Mr Clay. As the Adams men joined Clay, so the Calhoun men turned into your ranks. Calhoun supported you, in order to defeat Adams & Clay, and afterwards to succeed you. If Adams had been elected, it would have brought him & Clay in for twelve years. This was too long for Mr Calhouns greedy, hungry appetite. It was your *wish*, as well as of your friends, that the purpose of your election, would be accomplished in four years and that you would then retire to the Hermitage. This suited the aspirations of Mr Calhoun and therefore he and his friends supported your election, which for a while identified them with your administration. It was better for him that you should be president for four years which would give the next one, East of the mountains, and cut off the claims of Mr Clay, than that Mr Adams should be re-elected for four, and Mr Clay succeed him for twelve years. This was exactly the situation of Mr Calhoun, and these the motives which induced him to join the Jackson party. His plan was to be with you and your friends and succeed you. When you were called upon to serve again his disappointment broke out. He could not

stand it. There was a plot against *him*. Van Buren, was a great magician; and Mrs Eaton, was the very devil. Ingham Branch and Berrian, entered into the cabal. The partisans of Calhoun, in Kentucky have cooled on your side in consequence of these events. They *think* that Clay & Calhoun have united their forces, to beat you; and I fear it may be so, in the *Senate*. Hence I have avoided any thing that will *drive* Calhoun, into such wedlock. An union of parties, in the Senate, against you, may prove disastrous. It ought to be avoided. The dissolution of the Cabinet, and the slanders and violence attendant on it, has greatly weakened this administration. I deem it very important, that Calhoun and his party shall not operate their force in the *Senate* against you. Calhoun sees that he cannot force you to decline a second presidency; and I think that he and his friends will gladly be friends with you. I dont ask or expect you to make any *advances*. There are other ways to do such things. As a man, and as President, you stand in different relations to your friends & Country. The next Congress will be our Scylla & Charibdis; and we should skilfully sail through the strait. If I had the power I would silence Mr Blair against Calhoun. At the present crisis I would unite the Lion and the Fox. We have a poor sett, in Kentucky. Men on our side, could not unite for the benefit of the cause. Jackson men opposed Jackson men, producing defeat. We were very near losing Majr Lecompt by a *dear love* of sending the "Whistling of a name" to Washington.[2] We have enemies and mercenaries, in our Camp. You are deceived in *some men*. None of your *first friends* have deserted you. Those who come in at the eleventh hour are never to be depended on. They never enter until the wind blows *directly into port*. We have been cursed with such men. Hemphestion loved Alexander; and Parmenio loved the *King*.[3] Some men love Gen. Jackson, for his honesty, honor, wisdom and love of Country. Others love the president because he can bestow office.

It was the Election in Kentucky, which induced the middle & southern states in 1828 to join the west, in your favor. At present, I know that you can be elected East of the mountains, thus, Maine 9. N. Hampshire 8 N. York 36 Pennsa 28 Virga 24 N Carolina 15, S Carolina 11 & Georgia 9 making 140.[4] To me this calculation is certain. I am sure that other states, East of the mountains will vote for you. The opposition will build nothing on the late vote of Kentucky; and the other Elections of the West are less flattering. No Eastern candidate can calculate on them; and they do not furnish stock for Mr Clay to form a partnership, with an Eastern or Southern candidate.

My dear sir, I again repeat, that I do not want a severance from Calhoun and his friends. I am not for him, and therefore feel at liberty to speak freely. He and his friends hold the *balance* in the Senate. After you retire, many of your friends, look to him as their Magnus apollo. From him they expect office and power; and have been arranging matters to make him your successor. Every thing depends on the Campaign of next

winter, at Washington. Let us defeat the plans of our adversaries, by all the ambuscades of war.

The New Court-party, is extinct in Kentucky. Yet they intend to set up Gen Allen of Green as their Candidate for Governor.[5] It will not do. He will be beaten to death; and his defeat will have an unfortunate influence on the presidential Election. I told you the truth about three parties in Kentucky. I hope that falsehood will be nailed on Ingham, Branch & Berrian. We want the materials from Washington, which may be truly vouched to the people[.] I am sir with sentiments of the highest respect & sincere friendship your obedient servant

Worden Pope

ALS, DLC (39).

1. Pope had married Charles M. Thruston's sister.

2. The phrase "Charm'd with the foolish whistlings of a name" appears in line 72 of Abraham Cowley's translation of Book II of Virgil's *Georgics*. Jacksonian congressman Joseph Lecompte (1797–1851) won reelection in August over James Ford.

3. Hephaestion (c356–324 BC) was a general and closest friend of Alexander the Great. Parmenion (c400–330 BC) was another of Alexander's generals, put to death on suspicion of treason.

4. Reapportionment under the 1830 census altered these state electoral vote totals for 1832.

5. State senator James Allen (1769–1836) of Green County was not a candidate for governor in 1832.

To Edward Livingston

(Private)

August 7th. 10 oclock P.M.

Dr Sir

I am this moment informed that on the removal of Mr Ruggles on Saturday, a clerk in the Patent office, a Mr Walker was appointed to fill the vacancy, and the commission sent to Mr Craigg, which he has retained, owing to the excitement that this appointment has created

It appears from information given to me, that Mr Walker has acted fraudulently in Baltimore, and has taken the benefit of the insolvant debtors law, and is one of the most violent abusers of the administration. Duff Green is about to open his batteries against us, and intends to charge this as a doceur to buy over Mr Gales. It will not do to appoint bad characters where there are so many applicants of good character, and also fill our departments with spies & traitors. The object of this note, is to bring to your view the facts of this case, that you may early on tomorrow write Mr Craigg & recal the appointment until full enquiry be had into this matter, thereby prevent the odium of making such appointment. In haste your friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, NjP-Livingston Papers (mAJs). On August 6, Livingston had offered the vacant clerkship to merchant Samuel Purviance Walker (c1769–1834), formerly of Baltimore (DNA-RG 59, M40-22). Ebenezer J. Hume was subsequently appointed instead. John D. Craig (1766–1846) was superintendent of the Patent Office. Joseph Gales Jr. (1786–1860) and his brother-in-law William W. Seaton published the anti-Jackson *National Intelligencer*.

To Martin Van Buren

Washington August 8th. 1831—

My Dr Sir

I am in the receipt of your kind letter of the 4th instant, and for your kind expressions & good wishes, I present you my thanks.

I have had the pleasure of seeing & greeting Mr. McLanes arrival here, in vigorous health—from whom I learn the superior comforts of a passage in a fine Packett Ship, compared with that of one of our Frigates, therefore, for your comfort, I am gratified in your choice, notwithstanding my desire of sending you out in the fine Frigate Potomac.[1] I hope a kind providence will preside over your destinies, protect & prolong your useful life, restore you to your country in due season, when the people will fully appreciate your merits, when the present organised corps of designing Demagogues for political effect, will have ceased to cry plot, plot, to hide their own intrigues, & injure you. They have fell into the pitt they dug for you. before your return, Duff Green and Co, will be buried in the oblivion of forgetfulness, for the profligate & wicked course they have pursued, whilst you will be, and remain, in the full affections of the people of these united states.

The course pursued by Ingham, Branch & Berrien has truly astonished me, & as far as I have seen, disgusted the whole people. I never could have supposed, untill they told the *tale*, that they were *secretely* taking notes, visitting each other, consulting together, and comparing notes, & statements to reconcile them to each other, (I suppose regardless of truth) so that, at some future day, they might certify, or swear for each other, as occasion might require, regardless of the truth of the case. Was there ever such a dishonorable combination before, and with such unblushing affrontery to acknowledge it? But the most barefaced impudence is, their denying that the statement I had committed to writing was made known to them when invited to the interview—I made the statement to them from the paper in my hand resting on my knee. You will recollect, I had prepared the statement to send to them, when, on consulting with you, & Eaton, you remarked, it would be better to send for them, have no communication with them in writing, but from the prepared statement on paper to make it to them, that nothing improper, or more than I intended, should be said to them. I took this course, sent for them. Ingham and Branch came first, when from my paper in my hand, resting on me knee, I made the communication to them, first, bringing to their view the infor-

mation received, that had induced the interview—and when Berrien came, to him I made the same communication I thought it some what extraordinary at the time, that they did not all come together, & afterwards, as it is on my mind, I related the whole circumstance to you. But that the statement from the paper prepared, was made to the three gentlemen, are positively true, in which was distinctly avowed by me, "that with the regulation of the private intercourse of their families, or that of society, I solemnly protested against, with that I never had, or would I interfere." This I aver to be true, their statement, "that they saw no paper in my hand," to the contrary, notwithstanding, and on the back of the paper made the endorsement, "read to them, & their assurance that they would be the last men who would do an act intentionally, to degrade Major Eaton, or injure him & his family in society & &c *therefore not dismissed*.[2]

what situation was I placed in, having three such men amongst my confidential advisers comparing notes, reconciling their statements, fearful of contradict~~ory~~ing ~~statements~~ each other, that they might lie & swear for each other, if occasion ~~might~~ should require and prevent detection.

I cannot but *regret your seperation* and that of *Major Eaton from me*—but with the gentlemen selected, who are now all with me, and in whom I have great confidence, I trust, I will be able to navigate the national vessel into a safe harbour before I leave her. none of them surely, *will keep notes*.

You are aware my dr sir how irksome to my feelings & wishes it is for me to be here. The unworthy course of some of my professed friends, who urged me from my chosen retirement, aided in placing me here, has filled me with sincere regret, and I am now convinced that their support in conjunction with Duff Green Ingham & Co, were with the sole view to put down Mr Adams & Clay, by which, the way would be opened to their idol Calhoun to ~~their~~ his ambitious views, his popularity not being sufficient to effect it; and all, *now*, who will not worship this idol are to be destroyed, or lyed down, if their intrigues can accomplish it. ?how many faithless recreants, we find in our passage thro life. But with all my partialities for retirement, I see, I cannot retire now, or at the end of my term, as you are aware my wishes dictate. I will not be driven by my enemies; & contrary to the expressed wishes of the people, I cannot withdraw—but should the people again elect me, the national debt paid, and the bank question settled, you will see me adopt a course worthy of myself, and the principles I have always advocated.

Before you sail let me hear from you. give me your views fully & freely, if confidential, your letter will be destroyed. give me your recollection of the statement I made to you after the interview I had with Ingham, Branch, and Berrien, and als, that, which preceeded it, and my statement being prepared in writing with the conversation I had with you on this subject—and if you have held any conversations with those men since, give me their relation of the interview, & what they observed that I said to them; If your conversation were not confidential, if it was of that nature,

I am sure you will not reveal it, or would I ask it. I had a hope Berrien would have retired like a gentleman, but his course has proven to me, that he is as great a stranger to what constitutes one, as he is to consistancy and truth. ?Who could have supposed, that he, who was dancing around & about me with so much apparent friendship, on all public occasions, and with so much officiousness as Mr Berrien, could have come into office with the *base views* which *he now avows*, to drive Major Eaton out of office, who had brought him in, and to whom daily, he was professing so much kindness and friendship as he was, ~~daily~~ to Major Eaton? *What a wretch*! This *southern hotspur*, will not ~~fight~~[—]he appears to think too much of hi[s sacred] person to risk it. It is said Eaton [has] put him to the test—he declines. My Creed is true—there never was a base man a brave one, and Berrien has proved *craven*.

I shall expect you to write me before you sail. I take this occasion to present you with ~~by~~ my best wishes & prayers for your safety, prosperity & hapiness thro this life, and a happy immortality beyond the Grave—your friend sincerely

Andrew Jackson

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (18-0481). Copy endorsed by AJ, DLC (39). Bracketed text has been supplied from the copy. Van Buren replied on August 14 (below).

1. Louis McLane had left New York City on August 2 and reached Washington on August 6.

2. This wording paraphrases AJ's notation on the first version of his memorandum of the interviews (*Jackson Papers*, 8:56–58).

From Robert Beale

Chester Pena. Aut 8th. 1831

Dear Genl.

I had the honor to receive your note in reply to mine upon the subject of appointing your private secretary

I did not know at that time that you had selected any one to supply the vacancy; & indeed if I had I am quite sure I should have said nothing to you upon the subject had it not been for the solicitation of a gentleman who I know to be our mutual friend. I should have awaited your return from the Rip Raps but the time I had set apart to visit this state where all my relatives & sincere friends live had arrived & I could not wait longer without deranging my plans

I have been in this state for 3 weeks during which I time I have not been idle. I traveled through the two adjoining districts last week & I find every one of my old friends as firm as truth. Mr George Leiper late the member from this county has shewn me his correspondence with two of his friends who live in the two largest districts & they say without hesitation that not a vote will be lost & that they will not be the least surprised if our major-

ity should be greater in 32 than it was in 28.[1] The dismissal of Ingham has given general satisfaction. His publication of the private correspondence between him & major Eaton without the assent of the latter has thown upon him the reproach of every gentleman with whom I have conversed upon the subject. Mr Ingham has again got himself in a dilemma, & I feel it my duty as a citizen of Washington to keep him in it until I have held him up to public indignation and socrn for the infamous lible. In his long & laboured peace in reply to your letter offering him protection if he would return to Washington & institute a prosecution he says "all the juries who might be called to try such offences, must be selected under your own eye, & by an officer ~~of~~ who holds his office at your will &c &c[2] This he new before he made the call, & he but exposes his own malice & folly in doing so. But sir when he undertakes not to insinuate but directly to charge our marshall with a willingness at your call to violate his honor & his oath & places our juries in the same odious light, he gives a latitude to his malignity that I for one feel it my duty to resent and that in terms to suit the malignaty of the charge, he is a malignant & infamous slanderer.

I have written to Aston who is my firm personal & political friend & I call upon him to resent with indignation the charge thus made against him.[3] I write you in greate haste at my house & friend are waiting for me at the door. I am going up among the dutch where I am informed that the opposition have got persons to talk & read to these people, they being so much engaged as not to have time to attend to the papers. If I catch them in their dirt they shall feel me as they did in 28.

you must pardon the freedom with which I write you have known me before and since your election, to be your sincere friend & well wisher & I therefore consider myself entitled to your indulgence. The persecution of Eaton has given him the sympathies of all the people here[.] yours with sincerity

R. Beale

ALS, DLC (39). Beale (1800–1866) was a Washington attorney.

1. George G. Leiper had not stood for reelection to the pending Twenty-second Congress.
2. Quoted from Ingham's July 26 letter to AJ, above.
3. Henry Ashton was marshal of the District of Columbia.

From John Donelson

Station Camp
Union Mission
August 9th. 1831

Dr. Genl,

I have just had the pleasure of receiving yours of the 7th. of June in answer to mine from the Post of Arkensas. 'TWas owing to my absence in

the woods, that I have not recd. it sooner. I am greatful in feeling, when such testimonials of your mindfulness of me are afforded. It is the 2d. I have recd. from relation or friend since leaving home. I have not had time or opportunity to see or read any newspapers since my arrival in this country. Your letter gives me almost the first information in regard to the unfortunate disturbance and consequent reorganizion of your Cabinet. I am truly sorry that any thing should have occured to induce Maj. Eaton to resign and also the other members of the Cabinet. It is to be hoped however that you have been able to call together another set of men, whose intercourse in public & private will be in harmony & peace. In *you* the people confide, let *others* do as they will. I have just returned from my first expedition in the woods I have run a traverse line from the corner of Missouri to Fort Smith—77 miles nearly. The bearing of my line was South 18° 05' East which carried me so near to the Fort that I expect it will be the true line—having fallen only twenty five links to the East of the old Choctaw line on the East bank of the Arkensas River I found some very beautiful and rich land on this line—a great deal of it very mountainous & broken—finely watered—mountains & hills covered with the largest & finest grapes I ever saw—some of them nearly an inch in Diameter. They seemed most abundant & luxuriant on the hills covered with flint and gravel. There are large & rich bodies of land in the Territory of Arkensas, Washington county, twenty or thirty miles from the Cr. of Mri. as the eye of man could wish to see. It is more like the rich Tennessee land than any I have seen—'tis thickly settled, & has never been surveyed. The prospects for a lawyer in the Ty. of A. are dreary & chilling. Every place full & but little business. Our next trip will be up the Canadian & Arkensas Rivers. The waters are rather high yet for meandering.

The Revd. Mr. McCoy has not yet returned from his first exploring expedition to the west. He is indeed a worthy man with whom I am much pleased and also with his family. Mrs. McCoy, in her general deportment & kindness—reminds me very much of my dear & departed Aunt. My best respects to Maj. Eaton, if with you and to all *[friends]* and may health & prosperity still attend *[you]* in your exertions for the good of our be*[loved]* county

Jno. Donelson jnr.

[Endorsed by AJ:] John Donelson report—to be answered—A. J. answd. 17th. Septbr 1831—

ALS, DLC (39). *TPUS*, 21:363–64. Donelson was an assistant under Isaac McCoy (1784–1846), a prominent Baptist missionary appointed by the War Department to survey prospective locations for the Cherokees and other emigrating Indian nations west of Arkansas Territory. McCoy's wife was Christiana Polk McCoy (1787–1850). Donelson wrote AJ again on October 31 (below).

From Edward Livingston

Tuesday

Dr Sir

I have yet heard nothing from Genl Porter—my letter was directed to Philada & Major Lewis tells me he was about that time going to Lancaster. Since that I have written to him by Duplicates—directed to both places requesting him if he accepts to come this way[.] respectfully your Mo Obdt S

Edw Livingston

[Endorsed by AJ:] The President returns his respects, with the commission siged for Genl Porter, but not to be forwarded until his acceptance reaches us August 9th. 1831.

ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-71). AJ had signed George Bryan Porter's commission as governor of Michigan Territory on August 6. Porter wrote Livingston from Philadelphia on August 13 to accept the position. He received his commission in Washington on August 20 (*TPUS*, 12:321–22, 331–32, 343).

From John Pemberton

Private

Philada. Augt. 9—1831

My Dear General,

I have the pleasure of informing you that, my wife at 10 m. before seven oclock, last evening, (monday Augt. 8th.) presented me with a stout, healthy boy, and they are both doing well.

Mrs. Pemberton has requested me, to give her best remembrances to you, and say for her, "that, she is highly flattered, at your request to name a child of hers—and that we are now waiting to know from you, what, his name shall be."[1]

Your opponents in the late Cabinet are falling in public estimation daily. I sincerely congratulate you on the selection you have made for your new one. I was afraid, from two of them, having been Federalists, some discontent might have arisen in the democratic ranks, but that does not appear to be the case—they are all men of undoubted talents, and I trust will be an honor to the high stations they hold.[2]

The loss of such men as Stephen Simpson Hewit, Thackara &c. are truly a gain of votes, for you, and the Democratic party and I fairly believe, you are now stronger, and more popular, at this moment in Penna. than you have *ever* been, notwithstanding the intrigues and base attempts of a portion of those you have confided in, to destroy *you*, for their own ambitious desire of advancement in public life.[3]

Joel B. Sutherland Esq. has become again a firm Jackson Man (I am told) "with or without a Cabinet." and so he will continue—as long as in his opinion it is his personal interest—but no longer—he is a politician by trade—it is his vocation.[4]

John T. Sullivan, book binder of this city has been lately at Washington, and returned a *hot* Jackson Man. I think it proper you should know the course he has pursued, at least in part, in politics—he was a member of the first Convention at Harrisburgh that nominated you—he then became a violent Adams man, and a constant visitor of John Binns, Editor of the Democratic Press—such has been the course of John T Sullivan, an insinuating, and in some respects a talented man. I know him well.[5]

That your life may be prolonged for many years, for your countries sake, is the sincere desire of Dear Sir, your humble friend and servnt

John Pemberton

[Endorsed by AJ:] recd. 11th. August—31—Mr. John Pemberton. congratulate him & Ms P. on the birth of his fine boy, and the health of the mother. I highly appreciate the honor done ~~me~~ by Mrs. P. in yielding to me the naming of this fine son. I regret that I am unadvised the number of sons presented to you by Mrs. P. if there is already one named John, I claim the name, A. J. Pemberton, if there is no son named John, then let it be named John, A. Jackson, Pemberton—unless the weight of the name might injure the growth of the child. I present my blessing to the child, with my prayers, that it may grow & prosper, & in due time become an ornament to the society in which it may be a member, and a blessing to its parents in their declining years.[6]

Present to Mrs. P. my kind wishes for her health, & the health & long life of her fine son—and accept for yourself the assurance of my continued respect & esteem

A. J

ALS, DLC (39). ALS draft, PHi (18-0487). Pemberton (1783–1847) was a Philadelphia merchant, appointed by AJ in 1829 as naval officer for the Philadelphia customs district. AJ replied on August 13, crossing another letter from Pemberton on August 16 (both below).

1. Pemberton's wife was Rebecca Clifford Pemberton (1792–1869). Their son, born August 8, was Andrew Jackson Pemberton (1831–1900).

2. Louis McLane and Roger B. Taney were both former Federalists.

3. On July 14, six "original supporters of Andrew Jackson" in Philadelphia, including Stephen Simpson (1789–1854), William Hewitt, and James Thackara (1767–1848), had issued a public address opposing his reelection. They condemned AJ for betraying his 1824 and 1828 campaign principles, including a pledge not to seek a second term (Philadelphia *United States' Gazette*, July 26, 1831). Simpson was a Philadelphia author and journalist. Thackara was an engraver and former state legislator.

4. Joel Barlow Sutherland (1792–1861) was a Philadelphia congressman.

5. John T. Sullivan (c1782–1863) had been a Philadelphia delegate to the 1824 state convention at Harrisburg that nominated AJ for president. AJ appointed him a government director of the Bank of the United States in December. John Binns (1772–1860) had been edi-

tor of the anti-Jackson Philadelphia *Democratic Press* and publisher of the notorious "coffin handbill" in 1828.

6. The Pembertons already had a son, John Clifford Pemberton (1814–1881), later a Confederate general.

To Martin Van Buren

(Private)

Washington August 10th. 1831—

My Dr Sir

Mr Livingstong left us this morning half past 5 oclock, and Mr Preble waited upon me at 10 clock a.m. not having seen Mr. Livinston.[1] Mr Preble, has communicated to me, that he was informed, thro a channel in which he confides, that the British Government had made known to the King of the Netherlands that they would accept the award, and presented to him their thanks, for the *justice he had done them*. If this be so, then the British Government have been prevented by the Protest of Mr Preble from making their acquescence known to us. It will be all important ~~to us~~ that the British Government should first move in this matter, therefore at an early day after your reaching London it will be well to bring to the view of the minister, the propriety of their making their determination (of adhering to the award) known to us, by which we will be relieved from the delicacy that exists, as it respects the State of Main, from having to present to the Senate, our intentions of adhering to the award, before the intention of Great Britain is made known ~~to us~~. I cannot but believe, that upon this being delicately hinted to the British Minister, that he will not hesitate on the subject, and your good judgment will, at a Glance, see the advantage it will afford us in presenting this subject to the Senate.

I wrote you by Mr Livingston with a charge that he would deliver it to you, you will, if he should forget it, ask him for it.[2] I haste your friend

Andrew Jackson

P.S. I labour under a severe headache to day & you will excuse this scrall

A. J

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (18-0504). Livingston's August 1 instructions to Van Buren communicated AJ's decision concerning the Northeast boundary award by the King of the Netherlands "that, although we are not strictly bound by the award, it is expedient that we should abide by it." The question whether the award infringed on Maine's sovereign rights by surrendering her territory would be referred to the Senate for advice. Livingston instructed Van Buren to sound the British government's intentions without disclosing his own, "and if you find them inclined to carry the sentence into effect, then frankly to state to them the President's opinion" and his intention to submit the award to the Senate (DNA-RG 59, M77-73). Van Buren replied to AJ from London on September 28 (below).

1. William P. Preble had returned from the Netherlands, reaching New York in July.

2. Likely AJ's August 8 letter to Van Buren (above).

From Richard Gilliam Dunlap

Private.

Knoxville Tennessee
August 10th. 1831

Dear Sir

your letter of the 18th. of July reach'd me on the eve of our elections—my engagements forbid me to take time to answer sooner. It now gives me pleasure to write in full, and in doing so I frankly confess that the kind feelings of your heart, so generously & openly avowed for your friends, which are so characteristic of the whole tenor of your life, merits and call up all my admiration for such noble friendship. yes, this display of inflexible kindness almost conquers my objections to the continuance in office of the persons alluded to—and were I to consult my heart alone, and not your usefullness to my Country I would not murmer longer, but cheerish the indulgence of your fidelity to friends that hold them around you.

I presume that Majr Eaton is a gentleman with a good heart and much better attainments and talent than his friends general award him. But publick opinion seemed to rise in judgement against his continuance in the war department, and this was the reason why I supposed he retired by the *consent of all parties*. Majr Eaton's ~~merits~~ claims may not have merited this invitation—nor shall I pretend they did—but as the ruler of a free people I believed it to be better for you to obey the publick voice, and have men around you who could & would not only discharge the several duties of the different departments, but at the same time strenghten by their relation to the Country, the hopes of every patriot. This principle would give you aid, and not divide the popular usefullness of your name, between your cabinet & officers, & the leading measures of your administration. Fitness for responsible stations with the entire capacity to act out all incumbent duties, are not the only requisites, in popular governments: the publick must have confidence, to ensure that approving support so essential to any administration. I wish Majr Eaton all the joy & happiness in his retirement that can fall to the Lot of any man. I am for my Country and not against him. As for Majr Lewis I am well advised that his connection with you *does* and *has* & *will* affect you in Tennessee. Whether the fact be true or false (~~I~~ for one I do not believe that he has the influence attributed to him) the consequences are the same in publick opinion, and it is due to your own fame to your friends & Country to dispell the suspicions of the times. Mr Lewis is too feeble a man to have this station before the American people, suppose his heart to be as pure as angels. His friendship for you none will doubt. His supposed interference in elections *all must* to say the least against him doubt. This ~~then~~ is the opinion that prevails, that Majr Lewis is your confidential friend & the fact that he lives with you, give countenance to the charge that what he does is by your advice—you can readily my dear Sir see the awfull effect of such

suspicions, no less than a desire on the part of the executive to controll the elective franchise. No man in this nation I am satisfied would denounce and abhor such interference more than yourself.

writing as I do for your ear, I feel bound to speak not alone for myself but what I know to be the opinion in Tennessee of your *most devoted friends*. I can not & will not complain to you if you should act for these gentlemen and mantle them in the influence of your name, as I know the pure fountain from which your confidence in their usefullness and fidelity to you rises. All that I could do or would do, would be to hope that the publick had the same reason, that guides your generous feelings, to intruct the Country of their usefulness to you or your administration. I will quit this unpleasant theme with this assurance that my confidence is not in the least impaired in your unwavering patriotism nor in the final result of the publick usefulness of your administration—yet Sir these little matters have had their effect in this district & I fear beat Mr Lea by a *Second Benedict*.[1]

you will perhaps hear of our elections by the time this reaches you. They are better than was inticipated for the legislature. But two doubtfull and they are from Bedford. Crocket is beat as is believed, Hall is elected all the rest old members except from our ill fataled district. There was a desperate push in this County to elect opposition members; but fortune did not favor them with success.[2]

I do not admire Mr Inghams retreat, nor the *modesty* with which he apologies for his fate. I regret Messrs. Branch and Berrian course These gentlemen had high character before the nation. I fear the zeal of Mr Blair of the Globe is not tempered with a proper dhose of caution & prudence. It would have been better to have let Duff Green charge on, and make no issue on such matters. Mr Blair should not as the organ of an administration assume the daring and firery tone, which is alone tolerated in an oppositionist. It should be the business of such a conditioned editor to throw oil on the waves, and seek to Calm the troubled ocean—no storms and no tempests are required to purify the atmosphere ~~of~~ which surround the principles & measures of your administration. Hence the high and urgent necessity of Calm & sober appeals to the reason and patriotism of the Country. These are the only lawfull pillars, that can proudly sustain the glory of the nation—and fasten *first principles* upon the hearts of the people.

I thank you for submitting to me the new evidence in your unfortunate difficulty with Mr Calhoon. I say unfortunate as it was so at least in point of time. Mr Rheas letter & evidence will certainly vindicate you, as acting under the orders & wishes of the government during the Siminole war in 1818—suppose any other was required than the face of your discretionary orders.

when I joined your army in Florida, & at the time I reported myself to you—you after the usual civilities, said to me that you would furnish me with a copy of your orders, which would shew that you were justified in

entering a nutral teritory in frest pursuit of an enemy who obtained protection in the Spanish garrisons by the discretionary orders and wishes of your government. This was after the taking of St Marks, at Fort Gasden.[3] I replied that I was satisfied to obey my Genl, believing that he knew his duty—you said yes sir but I want all my officers to be satisfied that what I have done in Florida was done by the direction of my Government—you said that the Government wished you to take such a course as would bring the war to a speedy termination, and that nothing less than wresting the Spanish forts from the indians would enable you to do so, as the indians were sheltered & protected by these forts.

These are facts that I can not forget & none can doubt them ~~fact~~ who shared the privation of that campaign that the indians did receive aid & succor from the Spanish forts—yet my dear sir with all the justification that the enlighted judgement of your Country, has long since passed upon these transactions, I would not stir ~~these things~~ them any more—let them sleep—your country will never raise them to darken the luster of your renown. we have troublesome elements enough on the political field without putting frest fire & fuel to the ashes of long past incidents—which when put in commotion may injure what all may believe to be well guarded & well shielded innoscence.

However desirable it was to explain any misunderstanding between you & Mr Crofford and unite personal feeling with avowed political principles, still you can not be a stranger to the fact that Crofford, loved none less than he did Mr Calhoon. He in opening the facts of Mr Monroe's *Cabinet Counsel* to advise on your conduct in Florida—had as is apparent on his *own writtings* other motives than your vindication, which was the pretex in calling for his evidence. The credulity of an honest heart, united with a proud & noble sensibility to your own fame, when agitated by conflicting motives of others, all profession friendship demand the utmost caution to avoid either error or injury. Amidst the troubles of these times from a heart that wishes you & my country the happiest destiny, I invoke you to let these angry aspirants and chief of patries fight their own malignant battles. your Country calls on you for other service, for the action of a patriot whose fame will add in future times to the stock of America's richest wealth the living usefullness of the glorious deeds of her departed sons.

you may not fear the result of our congressional election altho you have lost yet hundreds who voted against Mr Lea are and were for you and will vote for you against any man in the nation. It seem we have lost one in Kentucky but its said there is a gain in the legislature.

None can doubt but that the explosion of your Cabinet, with its precursor *the correspondence* with Mr Calhoon, will bring new and spirited adversaries on the field against you. How to meet them can be better ascertained by searching out the true cause, which first agitated the harmony of your own house hold & friends. As I was one of your suite in decending the missisippi to celebrate the anniversary of the victory of

New Orleans in 1828, I have an opinion of these things.[4] while passing down the river Majr Lewis's mind seemed to be filld with suspicions about impending and projecting injuries awaiting your fate. He was as usual busy~~ness~~ and apparently kind to you. I beleived, either that he was alarmed at the phantoms of his own fancy, or that he desired to ingratiate himself deep in your favor, by his officious airs towards your election.

Majr Hamilton mentioned to me after we left Natches that he designed to return to New York through the southern States—that he wish'd to visit that Country, and at the same time believed that he could conciliate Mr Crofford towards Genl Jackson wich would have a very happy effect on the Crofford party and particulary in New York. I replied that however desirable it was to explain personal misunderstandings and unite personal feelings with political predeliction's that I entertained a better opinion of the Crofford party than to believe that they could be turned by a nod or a smile from their old leader—that they were pledged by principle and political consistency to unite against the latitudenous doctrine avowed by Mr Adams in his first message to the Congress of the United States.[5] He seemd to acquiesce in the propriety of my remarks but said that the leaders of parties always had influence with them. He then stated that it was believed that Genl Jackson was to be assailed either by Mr Adams or Mr Monroe in relation to the affiars of the Seminole war in Florida, and that he and some of the Genl freind, (stating that him & Majr Lewis had talked about the matter) believed that Mr Crofford could give evidence growing out of Mr Monroe *Cabinet Counsel* which would vindicate the Genl against such an attack. I most promply said to Majr Hamilton, that I feared no such idle dreams—that Mr Adam's ambition for fame would not permit him to disturb his vindication of Genl Jackson's conduct in Florida—that I believed he viewed it as the nation did, as one of the happiest incidents of his life. And as for Mr Monroe I said my dear sir can any one be so wreckless, of his own character as to dare to sully one of the brighest acts of his administration—for such Mr Monroe believed Genl Jackson conduct in Florida with its consequenses to be, the cession of that Country by Spain to the United States. Mr Hamilton remarkd, as strange as it may seem, that there was no calculations to be made about things in high party conflicts, and then intimated a doubt of Mr Calhoon's fidelity towards Genl Jackson. I remarked I care not whether Mr Calhoon love's or hates Genl Jackson, if he will only act for his Country, and aid to displace Mr A–s as I believed he & his friends were doing that it would have the same effect on the nation—and that I hoped to never see the day when the support or opposition to any men or administration would be based on personal feelings, that the principles of our Government placed the political action of the people of higher grounds. To speak candidly I felt a contempt which I had tryed to suppress for several days, for the conduct of several of your suite, whom I believed were feeding your fears & passions, with a view exclsively to fasten themselves on your kindness, as

they and all the Country knew that your heart could not refuse a responce to such offerings. I immediately informed Colo Martin and Genl. Smith two of your suite of my contempt at the servility and sycophancy of a part of your suite, and told them that I believed they were exciting your fears against shadows, and perplexing you, with motives friendly to neither God nor Country; and that I intended to quit the suite. Genl Smith & Colo Martin and myself agreed to take seperate lodging at the City, but to appear with you in publick. Governor Houston heard of my determination & talk to me and so did Dr Shelby, and by this argument prevailed on Genl S. & Colo. M. & myself to remain with the suite, to prevent the rumor that your suite had quarreled & quit you. No personal dispute had taken place no personal offence was offered but I told Dr Shelby that I was annoyed at the officious intermedling of such busy little men who deserved not the rank of your advisers—and who were doing more harm than good, even on the supposition that their motives were good.[6]

Mr Calhoons fidelity to you was alluded to before we left Nashville as being questionable after what subsequently happened, Mr C—'s refusing to associate his family with Majr Eaton's—it was easy to discover the means in Mr E. power to annoy him, suppose Mr Crofford's evidence was desired for other objects in the first place; and this I believe to be the Clue to the whole difficulty in your Cabinet, and with Mr Calhoon without stopping to justify Mr C's motives to you in the Cabinet Counsel.

If I have written too strong for your feelings I hope you will only consider; that I am thus impelled by an ardent desire to preserve the whole usefullness of you name and Station for my Country. I have no personal feelings against any one alluded to—but my anxiety for your future success may cause me to deal in what may seem horseness. I do not pretend to give all of the conversation with Majr H—but I have given the substance and if I have omited any, it would not change the character of what I write. The deductions are the effect of my own reason from these facts, and my view of the whole ground.

Its conjectured that an attempt will be made in our legislature to affect Mr Calhoon in your nomination. I shall deem this to be not only arrogant but malignant in Tennessee should it succeed, still I believe it cannot. we should let others states make the Vice Prest. and be willing to act in harmony with the great body of the republican party—that modesty which self-respect will teach should & does forbid any other Course.

you say that you have evidence that Mr Calhoon is a nullifier—be it so. I suppose he is, if the history of the conduct of the South Carolina legislature be correct in relation to this subject. yet would it not be better to leave this to the nation, than for you or your friends to interfere not with the question but the advocates. you had and the Country had & I hope *now has* some of the best friends mislead by honest zeal on this subject, & would it not be better to conciliate & win them back by honorable means

than to press them *all* to the wall. you will please pardon the carelessness and haste with which I write, as well as the freedom of my opinions.

Virginia and East Tennessee hold a convention on the 25th. inst at Abingdon on the subject of connecting the waters of the James river with the Holston by rail roads. I expect to attend. This work is expected to be done by charterd companies, in which the States may take Stock—and this is the only mode to check the daring rage for internal improvement by federal power.[7] The people are roused to the high utility of such improvements, and will act either throu the States or the national Government. I am very Respfully your friend.

R. G. Dunlap

ALS, DLC (39). AJ replied on August 29 (below).

1. In Tennessee's August congressional elections, anti-Jackson candidate Thomas D. Arnold defeated Jacksonian incumbent Pryor Lea.

2. Incumbent congressman David Crockett lost to William Fitzgerald, while William Hall defeated Robert M. Burton to succeed Robert Desha.

3. Dunlap had commanded a company of Tennessee volunteers that joined AJ's force in Florida during the Seminole campaign. AJ seized St. Marks on April 7, 1818.

4. On December 27, 1827, AJ had left Nashville on the steamboat *Pocahontas* for New Orleans to attend a grand thirteenth anniversary celebration of the Battle of New Orleans on January 8, 1828. AJ's entourage on the downriver voyage included Dunlap, William B. Lewis, James A. Hamilton, and Samuel Houston.

5. President John Quincy Adams's first annual message to Congress in 1825 had urged an array of government works and undertakings, including internal improvements and a national university and astronomical observatory. Adams proclaimed that "the spirit of improvement" was abroad, and that to "slumber in indolence or fold up our arms and proclaim to the world that we are palsied by the will of our constituents" while other nations advanced would doom Americans to "perpetual inferiority" (Richardson, 2:316). Jacksonians decried Adams's doctrines of expansive federal power as reborn Federalism.

6. Tennessee state senator Samuel Granville Smith (1794–1835), George Washington Martin, and Nashville physician John Shelby (1785–1859) were among AJ's traveling party to New Orleans. In his February 24, 1831, *Evening Post* defense against Calhoun, James A. Hamilton recounted that on the steamboat voyage, after "much conversation" among AJ's friends, he and Lewis had devised the plan for Hamilton to query Crawford about the Cabinet deliberations over AJ's Seminole campaign. The intent was not to inculpate Calhoun, but to prepare for an expected campaign attack against AJ and "above all, if possible, to produce a perfect reconciliation between those gentlemen [AJ and Crawford] and their respective friends."

7. A Rail Road Convention met at Abingdon, Va., and appointed a committee. It subsequently reported that a line from Lynchburg, Va., to Knoxville, Tenn., was feasible and would cost $4,508,000, which could be raised from private capital (*Nat. Intelligencer*, September 21, 1831).

From Benjamin Franklin Currey

McMinville Tennessee August 11th 1831

Sir,

Since yours of the 21st Feby 1829, we have had no personal interview, nor has the scrape of a pen passed between us down to the present time.

Notwithstanding this profound silence, and the great distance that seperates us in station, as well as in miles, I have been an attentive observer of passing events, touching your character as chief magistrate, and the best interests of that country, for the protection of which, at different periods, it was your good fortune, in war, to make so many sacrifices, and encounter dangers worthy the patriotism & valor of a Washington.

At a period so momentous as the present: at a time when the republican party is clothed in sack cloth and ashes; deeply mortified in spirit for the past, still looking through the dark curtain of dispair, with a glimmering ray of hope for the future, to the time, when your eyes shall be opened to your earlier precepts, and your conduct conformed thereto; you *will*, I feel persuaded, receive and read with attention, this address: Coming, as it does, from one whose admiration was excited on hearing of your military exploits in defence of our country; and the consequent hallo of glory that encircled your brow:—Coming as it does from one whose friendship, & whose principles, forbade that he should ask or receive more, or less, than even handed justice, demanded, at your hands: Coming, as it does, from one whose resentments, justly aroused, have been buried under the deep anxiety he has allways felt that your political career should be as peaceful & as creditable to that country, which has honored you with its confidence, as your military achievements were honorable to yourself and beneficial to the cause of liberty and humanity.

For the recommendations that you with hundreds of my fellow citizens of Tennessee were pleased to give me in 1826, I still feel grateful. Such testimonials against men of great influence & high sounding titles, in my favour, from *friends* & *neighbors*, who had been daily spectators of my conduct in *private* and in *public* from my infancy, afforded me more heartfelt satisfaction, than would all the unmerited honors, which could have been heaped upon me, in the character of sycophant, by *King Prince Potentate* or any other power. The appointment to the place which I then solicited, by the rules of the department, should have turned upon a fair expression of the wishes of the people, as laid down by the individual invested by the laws of the land, with the sole and exclusive right to appoint. The protest of Messrs Eaton & Houston against the interference of Messrs Adams & Clay and Houstons manly adherence to this principle, so obviously forming the basis of a republican government, led him to jeopardize his life on the misnamed field of honor. This no doubt he done with the more pleasure because he was your devoted friend, and it was upon the prevalance of this same principle, that he founded his hope of your future accession to the presidential chair.[1]

You however are not blameable with the injustice done me on that occasion. Yet when it was in your power afterwards to controll the streams of justice, and give force and affect, through the Genl P.O., to that voice thus fairly obtained, little did any true friend of yours expect to find you lending your influence to suspend the satisfaction of those demands,

so loudly made, not only by yourself, but all reflecting and disinterested lovers of correct principle: Little indeed could I have expected of you a proposition that I should descend from this elevated station to accept a petit clerkship at Washington City, where I would have been subjected to all the drudgery and disrespect, common to the most degraded servant of any well bred gentleman, in lieu of a place, assigned me, by the voice of the people, whose kind support I had no moral power to barter away. Little did I suppose either when your proposition had failed, and you pledged yourself "*that unless the whole delegation from Tennessee joined in presenting another person for the place*" that your confidential friend Jno H Eaton would have been authorized to make a higher bid in order to delay me from the path of honor & duty: Or, that he would after the lapse of a few short years have awarded to you, under the same identical laws, *powers & rights* that he and Houston had, in the nature of a solemn protest, denied to Mr Adams. And Still less after I recollected the special visit you paid me on hearing of Erwins appointment, to prevent me from accepting a clerkship under him, when at the same time you made a voluntary pledge that if I did not accept, you and the rest of my friends would adhere to me and bring about a day of retributary justice. Although I had taken my course, previously, little did I calculate that you would *encourage* fraud and *sustain it*, for the purpose of defeating the very claims that you yourself had so vociferously asserted, and thus promised to satisfy when a propitious period should arive.

When you directed Mr Bradley to dismiss Mr Erwin, and appoint Colo Armstrong, you must have been unmindful indeed of these pledges—unmindful of your obligations to the people, and regardless of their wishes, if you looked at the papers then in the Genl P.O, where the abundant evidence of upwards of seventeen hundred of my fellow citizens, was to be found, showing that the petitions which Armstrong carried on with him in favour of his own appointment, were vitiated by the false representations, that I was not and would not be a candidate: And if you directed the appointment without a careful examination of all the documents & papers in relation thereto, your notions of duty & regard to principle must have been entirely merged by your blind partialities in favour of Armstrong.[2] If not, *one moments* hesitation was not necessary, to teach you that in order to correct the abuse that had been practised by your predecessor, in refusing the P.M. Genl a right given to him, by the laws of the land, to appoint in obedience to the expressed wishes of the people, you had only to direct the dismissal of the *obnoxious Officer* and leave the legally appointing power to fill the vacancy. Mr McLean declined appointing Armstrong, after you had expressed to him your preference, on the ground as he no doubt would tell any inquirer, that he could not do so in conformity with his notions of correct principle. Had I have been appointed in 1826 and discharged the duties of the station faithfully down to the time of your inaugeration, would you have conceived that there

was any abuse to correct *there*? If not, and I had not forfeited all claim to public confidence, before the people put you in power to correct abuses, how in the name of common sense could you expect to correct one abuse fully by practising another, or to do justice without going back to the root of the evil: where instead of finding *exparte* and fraudulently obtained testimonials, you would have seen an expression of public sentiment, after a notice in the public journals that a vacancy would occur, when all the candidates had an equally fair chance and the people acted with a full knowledge of competition—there too you would have found an ample apology for acting as became a man of your high character, regardless of all mercenary considerations—there too you would have found a reason for awarding justice to whom justice was due Or if at that stage of the matter you had conceived yourself to be surrounded by perplexities, why not have given notice to the citizens of Nashville, that you would remove Mr Erwin and after giving a fair opportunity for Candidates to declare themselves, request the citizens *then* to designate their choice. After what *had* occured this much at least was due to *me* and to *them*.

Long since your departure in 1829, it was intimated to me, by a mutual friend, that Maj Eatons request that I should go to your house and stay, with his reasons for the invitation, as given, were not known to you. I will therefore now state to you, in substance, how I became a member of your family.[3] About the 1st of Sept 1828 Mr Eaton & myself were riding together—he remarked to me it was your wish that I should stay with you at the Hermitage—that your Office containing valuable papers was in danger from incendiaries, and yourself in great danger from assassination by hirelings of the opposite party: Also that you were getting old and could not write letters fit to meet the public eye—that your connexions were wild and careless fellows and could not be sufficiently impressed with the importance of these considerations, and besides, that you had the most unlimited confidence in me, and would prefer that I should be with you. Apprehending no iminent danger to your person or your property from the sources mentioned, I objected, under the belief that my enemies would ascribe my visit, at that juncture of time, to an oversolicitude for Office. Mr Eaton then observed that you and himself had conversed fully upon the subject of my case, and that the two first acts of your administration, if elected (of which we then had no doubt,) would be to replace Mr Bailey of Phila, and to invest me with the place to which I had a right founded upon the voice of the people: And as this right subsisted anterior to your election, which was then coming on, no one could with the least degree of plausibility accuse me of courting *you* for Office—saying these were your views—that you were not like Carroll who would make a pledge one day—violate it the next—and then laugh at the credulity of those who were deceived by him—that Lewis was the only man living who could get it from me and he should not oppose me—that he Eaton, would attend to this matter, immediately upon your instalation lest you

should forget it. And again urged the absolute necessity of my going to stay with you—refering to various letters, you had received, guarding you against assassination &c &c at the same time enjoining secrecy as to what passed between us. Still this same trust worthy and confidential friend of yours before he left Nashville for the city told Armstrong, as I was afterwards advised from an authentic source, that if he would apply for the Office of Post Master, he should have it. Lewis & E H Foster were also active agents. Foster urging me to the city; and Lewis telling my friend Andrew Hays that the recommendations of 1826 would be paramount to all others, one day; and the next exerting himself to get Houston who had risked his life in support of the principles involved in the case, to use his influence to get me to decline in favour of the son in Law of the President of the United States Bank.[4]

About the time of Armstrongs appointment, a letter was received from a member of your household, saying the Armstrongs were threatening vengance against Houston for his stubbornness: And A J Donelson your private secretary before he had even passed Pittsburg in company with you to the city, was proclaiming it that Armstrong would be appointed, and there would have been no fuss about the matter, if it had not have been for Houston. Humiliating as is the situation of that unfortunate man—that situation is far more enviable than the one occupied by either Eaton Lewis or Armstrong. And although I was never led only on one occasion (and that was by yourself) except by my own sense of propriety —the persuasive eloquence of a friend, whom I loved above all others (Houston) could not have influenced me to persue a different course from that which I did ultimately persue, notwithstanding it might have resulted to my ease & comfort in a pecuniary point of view, to have deviated: But Houston was too noble a friend to advise me to self imolation. He knew as well as I did, that man owes more to *principle*—to *honor* and to his *Country* than he does to his *purse* I was then contented manfully to wait and bare my fate

Amidst all these abuses towards me, you have given repeated assurances, directly, and indirectly, that I should be provided for, and you have expressed a deep interest for my prosperity. Yet how different has been your conduct. I have been supplanted by the machinations of Eaton & Lewis: And Robt Armstrong enjoys the place the people in their liberality had assigned me. Frank Armstrong also has been appointed to a post of profit & honor. W Armstrong likewise has received patronage from the government at the rate of $4000 per Ann. Saml B Marshall too has been provided for; Still you have made no offer to redeem your pledges to me: And far fetched excuses have been mustered into service to show that I did not even merit justice.[5] It would be unnecessary for me to inform you that three of the above named officers of Govt. are implicated in the Bank depredations; for of that fact you must long since have been informed, if your intimate associates have done you justice: Nor shall I labour to prove

myself purer than the rest of mankind, I am willing "the tree should be judged by its fruit"[6] But let me ask when has the widdow or the orphan or the aged and infirm been defrauded or reduced to penury and want by my treachery & infidelity? Or when has the state which gave me birth and nourishment been drained of its wealth by my illegal acts? These facts are not given nor are these suggestions made because I want Office: for I could not accept one from persons who have been guilty of double dealing, duplicity and hypocricy towards me: but from far more laudable motives—I might say from the best of motives. For I yet have a friendship and deep solicitude for your future fame, impressed as I am with a belief that what ever may have been your aberations from the true path of republicanism and duty, they are chargeable to bad counsellors, amongst the most dangerous of whom, is Eaton & Lewis. Millions look forward with anxiety to the time when they must share the fate of Woolsey and the Spencers—*discard* them; *save* yourself & the republican *party*.[7]

Your friends even in Tennessee are becoming disheartened and your enemies are encouraged whilst proud men *pity*. Shall the party be anihilated on account of Eaton Lewis & a womans business? Heaven forbid. In your unqualified denunciations against those who refuse to associate with Mrs Eaton you give a blow perhapse unmerited at the reputation & memory of your own departed bosom companion; who, if I am not most erroneously informed, among her friends in the vicinity of Nashville often lamented the unfortunate intimacy subsisting between your friend Eaton & Mrs Timberlake whilst she was at the city.—The people will think and talk and no one man can controll them—They universally denounce Eaton as the Polignac of America and Lewis & Kendle are execrated more than ever poor Woolsey was in England—They cry aloud in all circles that you should *discard* these men from your counsils and *save* yourself & your *party*[8]

I will be silent but the Historian will tell that the Hero of Orleans was duped by selfish wretches. It is obvious to all that in your practice your former precepts have been sported with. The fountains of intelligence have been corrupted by patronage conferred upon the presses of the country. Members of congress contrary to your doctrines have been seduced from the Halls of the national Legislature to share in the loavs and fishes of government: and Andrew Jackson now asks of the people ~~for~~ a second term for himself—Where shall we look for examples (throwing aside the *veto* message) in your civil life to equal those shown on the plain of Orleans &c &c?

It is the source of universal regret among your true friends that you should by the base conduct of a few have been made to fall out with all who ardently admired & supported you from principle; but failed to pay court to the candle flies that flit around the throne of power—*Discard* them—*save* your *Honor* and *secure* your *party*.

I speak to you as a friend should always dare to speak and as becomes an american citizen—*Candidly* and without *guile*. I speak too with the more freedom because it is the sentiment of millions of freemen whose hearts bleed at every pore, on seeing the dearest bought laurels begin to wither upon your brow. As your character is the property of the nation we feel that we have some right to ask such a course of conduct from you as will save that character from ruin, and render it more valuable to posterity. In writing I have no revenge to gratify, for I have long since forgiven you: And I have nothing to fear because the lamp of life, altho its reality is preferable to the uncertainty attending futurity, must be extinguished at some period, which heaven will designate. But much is hoped for and that is that you may be saved & the country benefited by solemn truths & kind admonitions.

I would thank you to send me, or direct the PMGenl, to do so, all the papers and documents sent the Genl P.O. urging my appointment to the Office of Post Master from 1826 down to April 1829. I feel persuaded you will not countenance the PMGenls determination to withhold them. Even Mr Adams did not deny to me the right of taking such papers, allowing them to be my own private property after he had rejected my application. I have the honor Sir To be Most Respectfully Your very Obt servant

Ben Franklin Currey

[Endorsed by AJ:] Recd. 31rst of August—1831—The writer must be crasey—he misrepresent greatly—he was told by me, that Armstrong if pressed would be appointed P.M. offered him office worth *$2000* refused—misrepresents Eaton who has been his sincer friend & Lewis—cannot take the advice of Boys, enraged because disappointed in office—I dislike such Patriots—There are two many of these for the public good—A. J.

ALS, DLC (39). Currey (d. 1836) had been Nashville deputy postmaster under his uncle, Robert Brownlee Currey (1774–1848). On August 29, two days before receiving this, AJ recommended him to Lewis Cass to superintend Cherokee emigration (below).

1. Robert B. Currey had resigned as Nashville postmaster in February 1826, and John Patton Erwin (1795–1857), an anti-Jackson editor and in-law of Henry Clay, was appointed in his place. On March 20, 1826, Eaton and Houston protested to President Adams that six hundred Nashville citizens and all but one member of the Tennessee congressional delegation had recommended Benjamin F. Currey to succeed his uncle, and that spurning their wishes violated established practice and republican principle. Postmaster General John McLean, with whom the appointment legally lay, replied for Adams declining the protest on March 24 (*US Telegraph*, March 31, 1826). Reverberating controversy over the appointment led to a September duel between Houston and Erwin's friend William White, in which White was wounded.

2. Robert Armstrong was appointed Nashville postmaster in place of Erwin at the outset of AJ's administration in March 1829. Then-assistant postmaster general Abraham Bradley (1767–1838) had brief charge of the Post Office Department between John McLean's resignation and William T. Barry's appointment.

3. Currey had served as a courier and scribe for AJ in the fall of 1828.

4. Ephraim Hubbard Foster (1794–1854) was a Nashville lawyer, legislator, and later U.S. senator. Andrew Hays (c1782–1843) was also a Nashville lawyer. Robert Armstrong was the son-in-law of Josiah Nichol (1772–1833), president of the Nashville branch of the Bank of the United States.

5. William Armstrong (1795–1847), brother of Robert and Francis Wells Armstrong, was at this time mayor of Nashville. AJ had appointed Samuel B. Marshall marshal for the western district of Tennessee in April.

6. Matthew 12:33. In 1830, Bank of the State of Tennessee cashier Joel Parrish Jr. was revealed to have allowed large secret overdrafts to his friends, producing losses of more than $150,000 to the bank.

7. Thomas Wolsey (1470/71–1530), Robert Spencer, second Earl of Sunderland (1641–1702), and his son Charles, the third Earl (1675–1722), were all royal intimates who later fell from grace.

8. Prince Jules de Polignac (1780–1847) had been French foreign minister and an intimate counselor of Charles X. He fled Paris after Charles's overthrow in 1830.

To Nicholas Philip Trist

(Private)

August 12th. 1831

The President with his respects to Mr Trist encloses him a letter, which he broke the seal before he discovered it to be addressed to Mr Trist.

The President will be happy to see Mr Trist as soon as his convenience will permit. In the mean time the President wishes him to see Dr Carr, and say to him he must arrange his debts with his creditors here, and particularly with Gadsby who is his friend & hard pressed himself—the Dr on yesterday assured me that he had made arrangement with his creditors—but as is usual, many complaints this morning have been made & I have no doubt by the *hagers on*

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr Trist. The President broke the seal of the within before he discovered that it was addressed to Mr Trist—sealed it as soon as discovered—not read—

AN, DLC-Trist Papers (18-0515). On August 10, AJ had given Samuel John Carr (c1802–1847) of South Carolina an interim appointment as consul in Morocco (18-0494). Carr had previously been a clerk in the fifth auditor's office, and was named on the list of defrauding debtor clerks that Robert Mayo had given AJ around June 3 (DLC-40, 17-1503). Carr wrote Trist on September 12 that he had settled "in an amicable way" with some of his creditors (Trist Papers, DLC). AJ nominated Carr and the Senate confirmed him in December. John Gadsby (c1766–1844) was proprietor of the National Hotel in Washington.

To John Pemberton

Washington Augt. 13th. 1831—

My Dear Sir

Your kind letter of the 9th. instant, has just been received, & read, I assure you, with much pleasure. Permit me My Dr. Sir, to congratulate you and Mrs. Pemberton on the birth of your fine son, and the promised good health of both—assure Mrs. P. how highly I appreciate the honor she has done by yielding to me, the naming of this fine & promising boy. I regret that I am not advised of the number of sons with their names heretofore presented you by Mrs. P.—if there is already one, john, in your family, I claim the name A. J. Pemberton. If you have no son named John, then let it be named John, Andrew, Jackson, Pemberton (as it may be the last son) unless indeed, it may be supposed that the lenght, & weight, of the name might be injurious to the growth of the child, then it may be abreviated. Kiss the dear little fellow for me, & present it with my blessing, and my prayers, that he may grow & prosper, & in due time become an ornament to that society in which he may be a member, and a comfort & blessing to his parents in their declining years.

Present to Mrs. P. my kindest wishes for her heatlh & that of her fine son, and accept for yourself the assurance of my continued respect & esteem[.] yr friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, PHi (18-0523). AJ's letter crossed another from Pemberton of August 16 (below).

From James McConnell Montgomery

(Private.)

Spring place Post office Cherokee Nation
40 miles from the Agency
13th. August 1831.

Dear Sir,

Having, ~~as I have,~~ in a former communication stated to you, that I had a son at Colledge in Tenese; this is the nineteenth day that I have been from home, I have been across the Cumberland River, through the number of the Counties in east and west Te; staid a few days at the Agency (with my Brothers) am this far on my way home &c.

Whilst at the agency a report was in circulation that the emmigration System for the removal of the Indians was again open'd, but as there was no arrival of the Mail on last week at Calhoun my brother had no official accounts of the fact, but was led to believe it to be so, as one of his sons had arriv'd from Georgia who said it was so stated in the news papers in that State; staying last night at Capt. David Mc.Nairs twenty

miles from this place, it was stated by an Itinerant ~~that~~ there that it was generally believ'd in Georgia;[1] he further stated that the Agent had the Power of appointing the assesors of the Indian improvements &c, this I think was guess'd at only, and indeed for my own part I had much rather that the appointment of the assesor, or assessors would not devalve on him, as there would be so many applicants that he would be very delicately situated and would hardly feel authorized to give a brother such an appointment, ~~and~~ I have only time to say that, If the appointment, or appointments, is still with yourself, that agreeably to your reply, dated the 18th. of June last to mine of the 4th. of the same month, none will be more grateful than myself, and as there was a great concourse of people at Athens in Georgia the last days Ultima, I have no doubt but there are a number who have sent on applications well accompanied with recommendations from the most distinguished characters in the State, but here I can say without contradiction had I been there I could have procured a recommendation from the best in the State, but as in your letter you did not request any such, I have rested satisfied on that subject, and will only say that should any such a trust be repos'd in me, that I will endeavour to discharge it with fidelity, and I really flatter my self that I can influence as many of the Aborigines to emmigrate as any other one, especially those within the charter'd limits of Georgia, *[my]* acquanitance with those are much more extensive than with those on the lands ~~of~~ belonging to Allabama & Tenese. I hope you will excuse my importunity, & should you have a leisure moment to write me only half a dozen of lines direct as you done heretofore to the Standing Peach tree Dekalb County Georgia. I am with high Regard your most Obedent Humbl. Servt

James M. C. Montgomery

PS It will take me two days more to reach my wife children & friends[2]

ALS, DNA-RG 107 (18-0519). James McConnell Montgomery (1770–1842) was a former Georgia state senator and the brother of Cherokee agent Hugh Lawson Montgomery (1767–1852). AJ wrote Lewis Cass on August 30 recommending him to appraise the improvements of emigrating Cherokees (below).

1. News that the administration would soon resume enrolling individual Indians for emigration appeared in Georgia papers before the end of July. David McNair (1774–1836) kept a stand in Polk County, Tenn.

2. Montgomery's wife was Nancy Farlow Montgomery (1780–1842).

From Martin Van Buren

Newyork August 14. 1831

My dear friend

I have received yours of the 8th. instant and reply to it in the bustle & confusion occasioned by my approaching departure; and in the first place my dear Sir I shall not attempt an expression of my gratitude, for the disinterested & persevering friendship, which has characterized your whole conduct towards me, & which is so strikingly exemplified in your last letter—a letter rendered the more valuable, from the circumstance, that, it is not only the last which I can expect to receive from you in this Country, but, may in the providence of God, be also the last, that I may ever receive from the same highly cherished & dearly valued source. Let it therefore suffice for me to assure you that the consciousness of your kindness, is treasured up in my heart, where, I trust, it will forever remain, unaffected by any matter or thing, that could by possibility weaken its force. There are various matters which press themselves upon my attention & upon which I desire to say something to you but which must of necessity be deferred to a more convenient season. I will in the first place answer your queries in regard to the interview between Messrs. Ingham, Branch & Berrien & yourself, upon the subject of their course towards Mr & Mrs. Eaton. Neither with those Gentlemen, nor with Col Johnson, have I had any conversation, confidential or otherwise, upon that subject. I recollect your sending for me one morning, & that when I arrived, I found you sensibly affected by an impression, which had been made upon your mind that, Messrs. Ingham, Branch & Berrien were taking measures, in concert, to exclude Mrs. Eaton from the Society of Washington. You stated to me in a general way, the grounds upon which that impression was founded, refering to several successive parties which had been given by those Gentlemen, & to information which had been given to you by others without naming them, & declared that, you felt it to be your duty, & had made up your mind, to interfere in a prompt & efficacious manner, to put an end to the proceedings of which you complained. You then shewed me a paper which according to my recollection was, in the form of a letter, to be addressed to those Gentlemen, expressive of your views, & feelings upon the subject. I do not remember to have seen that paper since, & cannot undertake to state with certainty its form, or contents. In one respect, however, I can, from the circumstance I am about to state, speak with more precision. I recollect that upon reading the paper, it appeared to me that the manner in which you expressed yourself, might be construed into an attempt on your part to controul those gentlemen in their personal ~~intercourse~~ associations, which, I believed, to be foreign to your wishes, & under that impression I suggested to you, the propriety of being altogether explicit upon that point. You at once disclaimed such a wish, & expressed your readiness to modify the paper, as to disavow any

such intention, & to confine your complaint, in terms, to the supposed concert, on the part of those Gentlemen, to effect the object refered to—a course of conduct, which, you regarded as not only unjust towards Mr. & Mrs. Eaton but, as being a direct attack upon yourself, for continuing in your Cabinet, a gentleman, towards whose family, such steps could be deemed justifiable. Expressions to that effect were introduced into the paper, which were I thought sufficient to prevent misapprehension, in regard to your views. It is my impression also, that, I took the further liberty of suggesting to you the propriety of substituting a personal interview, & a frank & free communication of your sentiments, in preference to a formal correspondence upon the subject, adding, that you might in that case, also, have the grounds you intended to take, previously stated in writing, that there might be less room for misapprehensions, upon a point which, we both regarded as one of great delicacy. I left you according to my best recollection, either positively decided, or at least strongly inclined to adopt that course. It may be that the paper was drawn up whilst I was with you, & that my observations were founded upon your declarations, as to what you intended to say, but my best recollection is as I have stated. Since that time, I have not seen the paper refered to, nor have I, my dear Sir, the slightest recollection that the subject was at any time after wards made matter of observation between us. It is quite natural to suppose that such may have been the case, but I have as well before, as since, the receipt of your letter, thought much, upon the subject, and I cannot call to mind any thing that passed between us, in regard to your interviews with Messrs Ingham, Branch & Berrien, after they had taken place. It may well be that you informed me of what had transpired at them, but if you did, it has entirely escaped my recollection; and my belief is, that the matter being as you hoped, finally disposed of, and influenced by a wish, which, you have always manifestd, not to press the general subject unnecessarily upon my attention, you thought it best to drop it altogether. I do not pretend to be accurate as to words, but believe that I am right as to the substance of what I have stated. It is quite possible that I may have forgotten some things, and am mistaken in others; & under the pressure of public duties, in which I was then engaged it would not be strange if it were so; but I give it to you as I have it, wishing only, to be excused, for the confused manner in which it is done, & which, the circumstances under which I write render almost unavoidable. One word more upon this subject. The anxiety of your friends that, you should not suffer yourself to be drawn into a Newspaper controversy upon this subject, is intense and universal. They regard it as incompatible with your station, & uncalled for by any thing that has appeared. The time may come when you can with propriety say upon the subject what you deem proper; & the discussion of the question, whether your or their Statement, in regard to the paper's having been shewn to them, be correct, may with entire safety be deferred to that period. That is not the question at issue, but a mere

circumstance—that question is whether you did or did not attempt to regulate & controul their private & social intercourse, & upon that point, how does the case stand. Neither of the gentleman assert that you either made such an attempt in your personal interviews with them, or either of them, nor that you admitted that you had done so through Col. Johnson; & he, the only person who can speak to the point, acquits you in the most solemn & emphatic manner, of any such act or desire. Can a reasonable and intelligent community require more? I think not.

It was my intention to have written you upon several matters but I find it to be impossible, situated as I am here. If I am not sea sick all the way, I shall do so on board of the Ship. One point only I will notice now. I have no doubt that you will by the next packet receive information that the French Government have offered 25 millions of franks for satisfaction of our claims, & if the offer is not clogged with unreasonable conditions, I think you will, as I presume you ought to accept of it. The opposition ~~will~~ of course, & the claimants, if they think it will be to their advantage, will raise a clamour agt. the amount. You will recollect that I have frequently spoken of an opinion which Mr Gallatin had expressed, that, three or four millions, would satisfy all the claims which we ought to insist upon. Deeming his opinion important & wishing to be correct I have spoken to him upon the subject and recd. for answer that, I must have confounded an opinion which Mr Crawford entertained, with the one expressed by him, that he thought 5 millions of dollars (a trifle more than the sum that will be offered) ~~would~~ ought to satisfy us.[1]

If we are not disappointed, the next question, & one of extreme importance will be, the manner of closing the concern. All future claims upon the U. S. ought by all means to be cut off, or the settlement will be, an injury, instead of a benefit to the Country. The mode of doing it must be fully and maturely considered, for whatever is done, will have to be exposed to the unceasing scrutiny of interested & able men. The original instructions are explicit and strong upon the point of its being done, but I am not certain that they point out the mode. They should be fully examined, & Mr Rives properly & fully instructed upon the point. I suggest for your reflection a relinquishment by France, by way of abandonment of all the claim set up by her; ~~and~~ couched in such terms, as to preclude the construction that compensation has been made to her in the reduction of the amount ~~claim~~ paid to us, & the reception by us of a certain sum in full satisfaction of all our claims, to be distributed among the claimants by Congress, according to principles established by that body, on a reference to the commission ~~to~~ for the establishing of the principles themselves as well as to carry them into effect, &c. But all this can be more understandingly done with the various instructions & all the facts before you & I must from necessity close my letter.[2]

I did intend to write to my friend Col Earle, to thank him for his kind letter & to beg him to write to me whenever he has leisure. Will you have

the goodness to remember me affectionately to him & Major Lewis whom however I expect to see if the papers speak true as to his being on the way to this place.[3] And to yourself in parting what can I say further than to pray God to have you in his constant & holy keeping—to prosper your efforts in the public cause in proportion to the purity of your motives & no greater success can be desired, & to bless you with a full share of happiness an prosperity in this world & a glorious immortality in that which is to come. With a heart which will I trust forever beat in unison with yours & a tender solicitude for every thing that concerns your welfare I bid you my dear friend an Affectionate farewell

M. Van Buren

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr V. Buren August 14th. 1831

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (18-0527). Extract, Van Buren *Autobiography*, pp. 361–63. AJ replied on September 5 (below).

1. Albert Gallatin had been Treasury secretary from 1801 to 1814 and minister to France from 1815 to 1823. William H. Crawford had preceded Gallatin as minister to France from 1813 to 1815 and followed him as Treasury secretary from 1816 to 1825. Gallatin had written the State Department on January 14, 1822, setting the maximum fair value of the spoliation claims at $5 million, $2 million of which there was "no expectation" of recovering (DNA-RG 59, M34-23; *HRDoc* 147, 22d Cong., 2d sess., p. 213, Serial 235).

2. Van Buren's original instructions to Rives on July 20, 1829, cautioned him not to reach a monetary settlement bearing appearance that the U.S. was accepting less than the full fair value of American spoliation claims in return for France dropping its claim to indemnity for purported American violations of the Louisiana Purchase treaty. A settlement in such terms would imply the legitimacy of additional unsatisfied spoliation claims and thus invite the claimants to pursue them against their own government. If France would not pay all the claims, Rives was instructed to settle for a fixed sum in "reasonable proportion to the actual extent of our claims," which the U.S. would accept "in full satisfaction of all our claims" and divide among the claimants, putting a definite end to the matter (*HRDoc* 147, 22d Cong., 2d sess., p. 31, Serial 235).

3. On August 6, the opposition *Daily National Journal* reported mockingly that Lewis was rumored to have gone to New York "to perfect, in conjunction with Mr. Van Buren and Mr. M'Lane, the plan of conduct which is to be pursued by the last-named gentleman in the Administration of his official duties."

From James Alexander Hamilton

Confidential

New York Augt 15th 1831

My dear Sir

Mr Livingston and Mr Van Buren dined with me yesterday in company with the Secty of the French Legation who has just arrived from France. The Latter said he understood before he left france that a convention or Treaty between Mr Rives & the f French Minister was about to be signed The terms he did not know.[1] The English papers say France has agreed to give us 25 Millions of Francs. Van Buren does not appear to be in very

good spirits which I attribute to his leaving his friends & the depressions ~~which~~ attending a change such as this.

I am told Virgil Maxcy your Solicitor of the Treasury has been in this City I have not seen him but mean to look for him to day Yesterday he went out of the City about 8½ miles to see my Brother Alexander Hamilton; you may have seen that a meeting was got up in this City to nominate Mr Calhoun at which my Brother Alexander (with a great want of discretion I think) was vice President I now learn that he got up that meeting and that an other is to be called Shortly—connecting these meetings & my Brothers agency with ~~these Meetings~~ them and this visit, not one made without some difficulty & expense, not one called for by the relations hitherto existing between these Gentlemen, and Mr Virgil Maxcys known Predilections It is clear to my mind that the Solicitor is upon a scent which prudence ought to dictate to him not to pursue too far, or with too much zeal, I have given you these facts in order that you may understand the purposes of the Gentlemen about you and not from any unfriendly feeling towards Mr Maxcy. It would have given me pleasure to have seen him in order to have conversed with him in relation to some matters which have been subjects of correspondence between us.[2]

I have been quite unwell & indeed am so much so from time to time as to require me to visit Dr Physic at Philadelphia & to relax my official exertions.[3] I have dissentary, a pain in my breast, and a cough, accompanied with fever & sweats I am happy to learn that you are in good health[.] I remain with the truest attachment Your friend & Svt

James A Hamilton

ALS, DLC (39).

1. The French secretary of legation was Fortuné de Sontag. French foreign minister Horace François Bastien Sébastiani de la Porta (1772–1851) concluded the July 4 convention with Rives.

2. A meeting of "friends of Mr. Calhoun" was held in New York on August 9. Alexander Hamilton Jr. (1786–1875), James A. Hamilton's brother, co-chaired and offered resolutions criticizing AJ and nominating Calhoun, which were unanimously adopted (*New-York Spectator*, August 16, 1831). Virgil Maxcy and Calhoun had long been close.

3. Philip Syng Physick (1768–1837) was a celebrated Philadelphia physician.

From John Reynolds

Belleville 15th. August 1831—

Sir

Altho' I had the honor to address you a letter of the 2nd. inst. in answer to your's of the 16th. *ultimo*: yet on account of the late outrages of the Sac Indians, and being honored with a letter from the Dept. of War, dated 29th. July last, requesting certain information I deem it my duty again to write you.[1]

Presuming, you have long since received from Genl. Gaines the information, which your letter requests of me, it seems to me unnecessary to go farther into detail, than in regard to the late invasion of the Indians, their numbers, their deportment, pretensions, and acts, and shewing the necessity for calling out the militia, than barely to state, that after their return from their wintering grounds, they forcibly took possession not only of lands which they had long since ceded to the united States; but which had actually been sold by the united States to individuals.[2] That they drove off those individuals, killed their stock, threw down their fences, put their horses into their wheat fields, destroyed all their crops of small grain, and commiting various other depredations declaring their determination to retain their possession and expel all the rightful occupants by force of arms. Their numbers though variously represented have never been estimated at less than eight hundred, and as they had, during the whole of the last winter, been engaged in efforts to procure assistance from other tribes, some of which were known to be successful, it was impossible to calculate with any certainty what force they could be able to bring into the field. Circumstances justify the belief that with the aid which they could have got from other tribes, and which they would have got, but for the prompt movement of the militia, that their force would have been above fourteen hundred warriors, and had they been able to repel the force sent against them their numbers would soon have been greatly augmented. The Sauks and Foxes, constituting one nation, have themselves about fifteen hundred warriors, and the miserable policy of recognising one part of them as hostile, and the other as friendly, instead of holding the whole nation responsible for the conduct of its members, will always on such occassions, render it doubtful; what portion of their force, we have to oppose. No reasonable man at all acquainted with those Indians can doubt, that had the war party been able to repel the force sent against them, they would have been joined by the peace party also. Indeed it is generally believed, that during the late war we suffered much more from the peace party than from the war party. The former always finding it perfectly practicable to have their depredations charged upon the latter. The effect of this policy has been to threw on us the burthen of taking care of their old men, women, and children, while their warriors have been waging the most unrelentless and savage hostility against our own citizens. However much they may pretend to differ in their dispositions towards us, they are perfectly united and harmonius among themselves. And while the Government permits such a state of things to exist, there are no other Indians that have the same inducements to commit depredations upon us. Since whether such acts are perpetrated by the peace, or war, party, they are able to be charged to the latter, while the former secures ~~to~~ themselves from all those forfeitures, and responsibilities, which other tribes incurr by persuing the same kind of conduct.

Of their hostile disposition towards the united States, and their contempt for the authority of the Government, you doubless will soon see an additional proof in an account of the murders of Indians friendly to us, and of white men in sight of the Fort at *Prairie du Chien*.[3]

Knowing those Indians as I do, seeing the alarm which their conduct had given to our whole frontier extending from the Missisippi to Chicago, witnessing those settlements breaking up, the people moving into the interior for safety, and taking into view all the foregoing circumstances, I deemed it my duty to furnish Genl. Gaines on the request he made with such force, as would be likely to overpower all opposition, and to accompany them myself, not only for the purpose of affording all the aid in my power; but that I might be ready on the spot to call out any additional force, that might be necessary.

From the hostile disposition still manifested by those Indians, I can not but consider the detached settlements about Galena in imminent danger, and I feel it my duty to recommend some suitable fortification in a central position as an asylum for the people in case of an attack should be erected, and that the Executive of the State should be authorised to call out a sufficient number of mounted men to repel any actual or threatened invasion.

In several parts of the State our people are very much annoyed by several bands of Indians residing upon lands to which they have no pretence of title, and which have not only been ceded to the U.S. but subsequently sold to individuals. Since the late expedition I have received such pressing petitions for the removal of those Indians, that I feel it my duty to request that you will have some measures taken for that purpose. It is to be feared; if this is delayed much longer; that the people who feel the annoyance ~~will~~ can not be restrained from adopting some very harsh measures of redress. This I have done and shall do, all in my power to prevent. It is desireable that those Indians should be removed on as peaceable and friendly manner as possible. Unfortunately they have been impressed with the belief that the U.S. will protect them in living and hunting on the ceded lands of the State. Could this impression be removed, and they be made to believe, that the State has the power to drive them off, there is little doubt, they would peaceably retire. No one who has witnessed as I have done, the evil effects of Indians residing among a white population can doubt the wisdom and humanity of that policy of the present administration which has for its object the settlement of those unfortunate people on the west side of the Missisippi.

At all events, we must get clear of them in this State who are residing upon lands to which they do not pretend to have any title. I need only referr you to a correspondence upon this subject between my predecessor, and the late administration to shew how earnestly the interposition of the Genl. Government has been sought in regard to this matter & how

much we have been disappointed in not receiving it as was promised by that administration.[4] I have the honor to be with respect your obt. Servt.

John Reynolds

ALS draft, I-Ar (mAJs). *Black Hawk War*, 2:138–41. LC, I-Ar (18-0542); *Illinois Governors' Letter-Books*, 1:181–84. AJ replied on August 31 (below).

1. Acting Secretary of War Taney had written Reynolds on July 29, asking if settlers still needed protection and promising whatever measures were needed to ensure their safety (*Black Hawk War*, 2:114).

2. On June 14 Gaines had sent the War Department a report on his movements thus far. This report was mislaid in transit and did not reach Washington until September 1. On August 10 Gaines sent another report "for the information of the President," in which he justified his acceptance of Reynolds's militia and warned of the Indians' continued hostility (*Black Hawk War*, 2:47–50, 131–34). A synopsis of both reports was prepared in the War Department and delivered to AJ (DLC-39).

3. On July 31, an estimated 80 to 100 Sacs and Foxes had attacked a Menominee encampment at Prairie du Chien near Fort Crawford, killing 25 or 26. No whites were apparently present (*Black Hawk War*, 2:114–21).

4. Then-Illinois Governor Ninian Edwards (1775–1833) had complained strenuously to the War Department in 1827 and 1828 about its failure to remove Indians from ceded lands in Illinois. Secretary of War Peter B. Porter wrote Edwards on July 7 and 22, 1828, asking patience and promising that all means would be used to effect a complete removal by May 1829 (DNA-RG 75, M21-5; *Illinois Governors' Letter-Books*, 1:139).

From Martin Van Buren

New York, *Aug. 15, 1831.*

My dear Sir

I gave the enclosed to our friend when here, but he has been deterred by a sense of delicacy from delivering it to you and has returned it to me with a request that I would write to you from here. Want of time compels me to enclose it to you and to request that you would show it confidentially to Major Lewis whom he asks to be informed as to his wishes.[1]

Mr. McLane is delighted with your reception of him and will in all respects come up to your expectations. Between us, in strict confidence, he apprehends that another member of your Cabinet may desire the same place that he does. Talk to him freely about it if you please and he will be at ease. It has been a very unpleasant matter for me to press this subject upon your attention at this moment but I could not well avoid it, and it is best that you should know all. If your son is with you remember me to him affectionately and do the same to Mr. Trist; say, if you please, to the latter, that I would write him if I could but that he must write me often and remember me mostly kindly to Mrs. Randolph, Mrs. Trist and all the family.[2]

God bless you.

M. Van Buren.

Printed, *The Autobiography of Martin Van Buren*, p. 580 (18-0545).

1. The enclosure was Van Buren's August 3 letter to AJ, above. McLane had asked Van Buren to make sure that William B. Lewis knew of his wishes, since in Van Buren's absence Lewis's "interference" would likely be necessary to ward off Roger Taney's rival candidacy (Van Buren *Autobiography*, p. 579).

2. Nicholas Trist's wife, Virginia, was the daughter of Martha Jefferson Randolph (1772–1836), widowed daughter of Thomas Jefferson.

From Martin Van Buren

NYork Augst 15 1831

My dear friend

My son the Major who will be with you in a few days & nearly as soon as this has a long letter for you from me.[1] At this moment I am literally head over heels engaged in business visits & I can therefore only snatch a moment to say one more good bye to you. Please make my warmest acknowledgments to Major Lewis & thank him for his very kind letter & assure him that I shall always be happy to hear from him & of him & of his happiness and welfare. Please to write me by the next Packet whether I may say to the Dutch Ambassador in England if I should think it necessary that although you for a short time felt hurt in consequence of reports brought you of the declarations of Mrs Huygens, ~~but~~ yet that a friendly explanation had taken place which was satisfactory to you &c.[2] I shall write you again from a board Ship.

I leave the Major under your fatherly care not doubting that he will receive the same friendly treatment at your hands which you have always extended to his less worthy father. God bless you

M Van Buren

your letter by Mr Livingston was duly recd & is answrd in the one sent by my son.

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr V. Buren—August 15th. 1831

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (18-0546). AJ replied on September 5 (below).

1. Abraham Van Buren (1807–1873), Martin's eldest son, delivered his August 14 letter (above).

2. It was reported to AJ in January 1830 that Mrs. Huygens had declared her intention to put Margaret Eaton out of society. AJ considered it, if true, an affront serious enough to justify demanding her husband's recall. He asked Van Buren to investigate. Van Buren met with Mrs. Huygens and her husband, obtained their denial, and reported it to AJ, who accepted it (*Jackson Papers*, 8:49).

From Edward Livingston

(private)

New York 16. August 1831

Dr Sir

By a dispatch from Mr. Slacum our Consul at Buenoayres, which I have directed Mr. Brent to communicate to you; you will be informed of the death of Mr. Forbes our chargé d'affaires at that place. I think care should be taken in the selection of his successor I know no one at present whom I could particularly recommend but it appears to me very necessary that higher standing as to national character as well as education and talent should be required in our appointments to those republics where with such men to represent us we would soon acquire the influence to which on many accounts we are entitled Perhaps it would be as well to take some time for reflection and examination of the personal qualifications of the candidates before the appointment is filled.[1]

Mr. Preble arrived last evening and we had a conference with Mr. Van Buren. Although Mr Preble thinks that some thing might be gained by opening a new negociation for the boundary yet as that could only be done by previously rejecting the award a responsibility which it seemed to be your opinion (as it was that of your Cabinet) you ought not to incur I did not think it right to make any alteration in Mr Van Burens instructions in this respect he being now directed to obtain the views of the English Government and if they are (as it is almost certain they will be) in favor of the award then frankly to communicate your intention of submitting the Matter to the Senate. Mr Bankhead called on me this morning to say that his Government were anxious to know what were our intentions on that Subject. I asked him whether he was prepared to communicate theirs, he said no, not officially but that he knew they made one favorable to the award the Govt. of the Netherlands I replied that M Van Buren was furnished with instructions on that subject to be acted on when the British government had disclosed their intentions

Mr. Van Buren has just sailed[.] I am my Dear Genl respectfully & Truly Your friend & Hble S—

Edw. Livingston

[Endorsed by AJ:] recd. 18th. august 1831 Mr Levingston—on the subject of our foreign matters A J Boyes ayeres

ALS, DLC (39; 18-0550).

1. On June 14, consul George Washington Slacum (c1794–1861) reported to the State Department the death that day of John Murray Forbes (1771–1831), U.S. chargé d'affaires at Buenos Aires since 1825 (DNA-RG 59, M69-5). Livingston offered the post to Francis Baylies on October 30. He accepted, and AJ appointed him in December. Daniel Brent (1774–1841) was chief clerk of the State Department.

From John Pemberton

Philada. Aug. 16th 1831

My dear Genl.

I wrote to you on the 9th., and mailed the letter on the 10th. of this month, informing you of the birth of our son on the 8th. inst. and also a request from Mrs. Pemberton to say for her (in which I heartily concur) "That she is highly flattered at your request to name a child of hers; and that we are now waiting to know from you what, his name shall be."

Not hearing from you before this we suppose the letter must have miscarried, particularly as I understand you have not been from Washington for some weeks, and that your health and spirits are good, which I trust will be continued to you for many years.

My wife's sincere remembrances to you. She is very anxious to hear from you. Enquires are daily made Why dont you name him?

I hope we shall hear from you in a day or two[.] I am Dr. Sir, faithfully your friend & obdt servnt.

Signed John Pemberton

ALS Draft, PHi (18-0553). AJ replied the next day, August 17, regretting the delayed delivery of his August 13 letter (above) and repeating its substance (18-0558). Pemberton acknowledged both letters on August 19 (18-0573).

To Anthony Butler

[The italicized sentence in this text was written in a numeric code. Its transcription here is taken from the draft of the letter, where the sentence was written out and then converted to code.]

Washington, August 17. 1831.

Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your favors of the 23rd June & 22nd July, the latter of which came to hand yesterday. The prospect of other violent changes of government in Mexico cannot but be a source of sincere regret to myself & all well-wishers to that Republic. You will be sensible, that it renders it the more necessary to urge, to the utmost of your ability, the ratification of the commercial treaty, by the present Congress; and, as early as you can see your way clear, to press the establishment of our boundary. *Your suggestion with regard to the maximum has been fully considered, in executive council; and their unanimous opinion is, that five million cannot be exceeded.*

Instructions on the subject of fugitive slaves have been forwarded to you; and a supply of Treaty paper will be, from New Orleans. I trust that the prompt transmission of your letters will stimulate you to encreased

activity as a correspondent. In the present posture of affairs it is important that we should hear from you as often as possible; and your letters cannot be too frequent for the interest I take in you, personally. I salute you, with friendship & respect.

Andrew Jackson

LS in Nicholas P. Trist's hand, TxU (18-0555). Draft in Trist's hand, DLC (39).

From Silas Enoch Burrows

August 17th 1831
New York

My Dear Sir

I reached Philadelphia on Sunday and left, on Monday at six O clock—which prevented my procuring the names, to the petition, which was for Pensacola instead of Tennessee.

The petition is accompanied by your private letter advising and requesting the establishment of the Bank Branch, which letter was answered you by the President, of the Bank.

Mr Van Buren sailed yesterday in fine spirits.

The Collector is well and thinks he will give you this year Eighteen Millions revenue.[1]

May you enjoy long life and every degree of happiness is the wish of dear Sir, Your most Obt Servt

Silas E Burrows

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr. Burrows—on the subject of a Bank at Pensacola. The subject is recollected. I was Govr. & applied to by the citizens to forward their petition—for the reasons set forth I did forward it. Surely this is no evidence that I was in favor of the Bank. The contra—but my duty to the citizens to forward at their request the petition A. J.

ALS, DLC (39). On August 15, 1821, when he was provisional governor of Florida, AJ had forwarded a memorial of Pensacola citizens to then-BUS president Langdon Cheves (1776–1857) for a branch at Pensacola, saying he had "no doubt that a branch here, under a judicious direction, would not only prove convenient to the inhabitants in this section of the country, but also be beneficial to that institution." Cheves had replied on September 29 that establishing a Pensacola branch, though perhaps desirable, would not be immediately feasible (*SDoc* 17, 23d Cong., 2d sess., pp. 249–51, Serial 267).

1. Samuel Swartwout was New York City customs collector.

To Hardy Murfree Cryer

Washington August 18th. 1831—

My Dr & Revd. friend—

your very kind & interesting letter of the 24th. ulto. has been recd. & has been laid aside for a leisure moment to reply to it.

Your elections for members to Congress have taken place, but as yet, we have not heard any thing of the result—it is stated in the Opposition prints here, that Arnold has beaten Lea—Knoxville District—if this be true, it shews a bad State of morales in that District, and that truth & honesty is not sufficiently appreciated—he is a *vile character* & worthy of the name he bears, *Arnold*; Kentucky has done her duty, and given a majority against all the opposition combined, in which the corrupting influence of the Bank was powerfully wielded—this morning brings intelligence that chilton is beat by 37 votes—this if true, gives 8 to 4 in Kentucky—from all which I infer that the Ex member of congress, will be much mortified, to see his idol Calhoun as well as Clay, dehors, the Combat—chilton beaten, & Crockett left at home, the character of Tennessee, & Kentucky, will be relieved from the foul stain ~~that~~ of being represented by such men, have brought upon them.[1]

Mr Calhoun's nullifying expose has just made its appearence.[2] This of itself nulifys him, *forever*, if his duplicity has not done it. The hypocritical ~~con~~, & judas like conduct, of Ingham, Branch, & Berrien, is receiving its reward. Col Johnstons letter has nulified them compleatly, & Berriens own contradictions has prostrated him, in the oppinion of all honorable, & good men.[3] Ingham is prostrate in *good old Pennsylvania*, she Stands to her first Love, like a *rock unmoved*—and my friends write me from every part of the State "that I never was so strong." So you see, that the Secrete attempt by Calhoun, thro' his tools, Ingham Branch & Berrien, with all their notes & note Books, has done me no injury, but has recoiled upon the combination. You may rest assured that Genl Desha has had a good deal to do in this secrete, disgraceful, and dishonorable proceeding—¿what must honorable men think when they are told by the expose of Ingham & Berrien that they came into the Cabinet to drive Eaton out, whilst they three Ingham, Branch, & Berrien were professing the strongest attachment to him, & to me! was there ever such dishonorable conduct before, when they were assured by me that Major Eaton was the last men, with my consent, that should leave the Cabinet, & those who could not harmonise had better retire. They have fell into the Pitt dug for me, as all hypocrites & judases ought, and the scripture says, *will*.[4]

I am glad to hear that Mr Cotton has agreed to take the three year old Stockholder filly—and the two year old stud colt by Sir William, out of the oscar filly. This colt I wish Mr Cotton carefully to train, as I believe he will make a first rate runner, & I authorise you to draw upon me for the amount of the training when due—a gentle training this fall of the two

year old, will ensure him to make a good run next year when he is three year old. I beg you to say to Mr Cotton to make a thorough trial with the filly. I ~~have~~ am induced[5] from the blood of the mother, to believe she will make a first rate runner. The stud colt Citizen, I regret to hear that he has got injured—it was prudent not to attempt to train him until the defect in his knee, entirely disappears. I will, if I do not sell him here, have him trained, if he gets well. I am informed by my son that you are coming on to Virginia this fall, & that it might be in your power to bring on Bolivar with you. If you can, it will oblige me very much, and I will pay all expence & a reasonable allowance for the trouble. I can do well with him here, I have made a conditional sale of him at *$2000*—and if this fails, I can make that amount by standing him in this neighbourhood—write on the receipt of this, and advise me, whether it will be in your power to bring him on for me, & at what time.

I rejoice to learn that you have been so prosperous with Arab, & your young Stud. May you always prosper is my prayer

Present me kindly to Mrs. Cryer & kiss little Rachel for me, & believe me your sincere friend

Andrew Jackson

Photocopy of ALS, NjHi (18-0561). Christie's (Forbes sale #1), March 27, 2002.

1. In Kentucky's August congressional elections, Jacksonian Albert Gallatin Hawes (1804–1849) defeated incumbent Thomas Chilton (1798–1854), who had renounced AJ for Clay in 1830. Overall, Jacksonians took eight of the state's twelve seats.

2. Calhoun's July 26 "Fort Hill Address," expounding on nullification as "the fundamental principle of our system," appeared in the *Telegraph* on August 16 and the *National Intelligencer* on August 17 (*Calhoun Papers*, 11:413–40).

3. On August 12, the *National Intelligencer* published a July 31 letter from Richard M. Johnson to Samuel Ingham. Johnson replied to Ingham's statement of the January 1830 Cabinet events and his July 13 letter to Johnson, both of which Berrien had published with his July 22 address to the public. Johnson chastised Ingham for publishing and for errors in his account, and reiterated what his June 30 letter had stated: that he had approached the three secretaries on his own initiative to try to effect a reconciliation, and that AJ had never attempted to dictate the social relations of his Cabinet "in any manner whatever, directly or indirectly," through himself or otherwise.

4. Proverbs 28:10; Psalms 7:15.

5. This correction is not in AJ's hand.

From John Pitchlynn

Hopewell Prairie, near Columbus, Lowndes Co., Miss. Aug. 18th. 1831

Dear Sir:

I have a favor to request of you, which I should hardly venture, if I did not derive much encouragement from the good will you have manifested towards me, on several occasions. My best energies, during a period of fifty years, have been directed to the support of the American government,

upon which I based the well-being of the Chokta nation. I have not been mistaken; and, while a contrary course has involved the Creeks in much misery, I enjoy a heart-felt pleasure that I have done much to dissuade this people not to walk in their crooked paths. But time must shortly put a period to all my services, and consign me to the tomb. I have a son whom I wish to devote to the service of the United States and replace me when I shall be no more. He is fifteen years of age, and reads and writes the English language; also has made some progress in Arithmetic, and is desirous of further improvement, to which end, I am induced to believe that the Military Academy, at West Point, would be the most eligible institution, and, from his docility, I have no doubt but, as one of its pupils, he would do credit to himself, and, I trust, honor to *it*. If, in your wisdom, you should judge expedient to confer the appointment of Cadet on Thomas Jefferson Pitchlynn, I should be extremely grateful for early notice, and hope no barrier would exist to his proceeding to West Point some months before the annual examination, in order that he might take lessons there, which would better prepare him for admission next June.

My continuance in my present duties will, I presume, be requisite until the consummation of the treaty in 1833. They are now as arduous as ever, inasmuch as there are numerous applicants to me to explain little difficulties that arise, and as it is especially necessary to keep up a good understanding of the United States' intentions. As I may finally conclude to remain on this side of the Mississippi, in that event, I presume my daughter Betsey & daughter Eliza, being over ten years of age, will be entitled each to a half section, and my youngest child, Kezia, to a quarter section, in conformity to the 14th. article of the treaty, they being in no other way provided for. Indeed, I applied to the agent to become entitled for myself & these three children, under this article; but as he decided against my claims, I still reserve the right to pursue another course, until superior decision. I think my claim good to an additional section to myself, in case of stay, either as head of a family, or as cultivator of more than 50 acres, and if 58 years residence amongst the Chaktas do not make me one, then it seems that my wife ought to be entitled, as Chakta head of a family. It will appear evident then, upon reflection, that if the 19th article, in my favor, had been omitted, I should, under the other provisions of the treaty, in case of stay, be entitled, 1st as Chakta head of a family, to one section; 2d for my two daughters, Eliza & Betsey, to one section; 3d. for my daughter Kezia, to one quarter; and, 4th. as cultivator of more than 50 acres, to one section—in all, three sections & a quarter. Whereas, according to the agent's construction, I can now be entitled to only two sections, go or stay.[1] Upon these considerations, therefore, I base my claim to two sections & a quarter additional, which, if granted, will not place my three daughters upon a footing as favorable as that of my other children. These things I leave to your superior judgment to decide, confident that, in case of doubt, you will construe them favorably.

There is residing with me, a Creek girl, named Onaheli, who is an orphan that I brought from the Creek country during the last war, and as she refused to return, I have protected her ever since. As she is not a Chakta by birth, objections arise to her receiving any reservation, in case of stay. She is about 18 years of age. I submit to you whether, considering that she is identified with this nation, it would not be expedient to make her a grant of a half-section, and if so, that it may be located near my children's land.

On account of the decease of my son, Jack Pitchlynn, his children are left fatherless. He mortgaged his title to the two sections granted him by the treaty, before his demise, excepting out of it, however, the privilege of the ferry opposite Columbus, which you granted him in 1820, then being a commissioner for the acquisition of Doak's stand. Personal application will be made to you, by the parties interested, or their agent, within a short time, to ratify this transfer. In any event, I would wish this ferry secured to the two sons of Jack, who are under ten years of age and also motherless. This ferry will be the only support of these children. Their mother was a daughter of Levi Colbert, and to your decision I leave it, whether they may not be entitled to a quarter section each, as Chaktas, or, as they are now residing with their aunt, in the Chicasaws, whether they may not participate advantages that may be allowed to Chicasaw orphans. If the half section solicited for these children be granted, it would be to their interest to have it floating. As respects the claim for myself, and my three daughters who are unprovided for, I would wish it floating, if possible: if not, as expediency may render necessary.[2]

I have an observation to make, in favor of Middleton Mackey. He is entitled to a section by the treaty, to be located near his residence. That residence is on a poor spot, which he selected in order to be near the agent, and render service as interpreter. He is poor, and will cross the river with his numerous family, and has no other claim. As soon as possible after the treaty, and before it was ratified, he made another selection, about 12 miles from the agency, on which a house was erected, and improvements made. He wishes his claim may include these *last* improvements, and seeing that his residence in the place, near the agency, to which the *letter* of the treaty would confine him, was necessary to public convenience, and not the result of choice, I doubt not that you, always liberal on the side of the deserving, will, if possible, decide in his favor.

Concluding upon such matters as concern me & my family, I must observe, that I but acquit myself of the duty I owe my grand-children, touching what I have said respecting them; also of my duty to the orphan Creek & to a friend. I have never asked any thing, for myself, of the government. I wish for my children, who are unprovided for, all that I believe them intitled to. It is likely I shall prefer to remain. I have not positively avowed this determination, because I thought that my services might be called for, beyond the Mississippi, and I wished to make no avowal that

might compromit my wishes to be serviceable. It must be obvious to you, sir, who have seen & know so much of men, and of the strange whims that sometimes govern them, that, had I, during the course of my life, been solely intent on my *own* interests, the motives to my actions would have been misconstrued and I would have lost much of the influence I possess, in the general belief that it was neither the good of the United States, nor of the Chaktah nation, but my own, that I sought, from my transactions. The British efforts of the revolution—the Spanish of 1806 and at other times, to place me in opposition against the American government, have been unavailing, and often have I silenced the prepossessions & prejudices of the Chaktas, when they would have acted counter to their own interests & to those of the United States. Their fate is now determined on—my career is fast drawing to a close, and if the future be not smiling for them, the fault will not be yours, nor mine, and neither of us will survive to rejoice or sympathize with them. With great esteem, yr very obt. Servt.

John Pitchlynn

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr Pinchlins letter. The treaty to be examined. A. J.

LS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-169). Copy, DNA-RG 46 (18-0566). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 566–68 (Serial 245). Pitchlynn (d. 1835) was a white man with a Choctaw wife, Sophia Folsom Pitchlynn (1773–1871). He had long been an interpreter for the Choctaws, including, with Middleton Mackey, at the Dancing Rabbit Creek negotiations in September 1830. Article 19 of that treaty granted him two sections of land, and a supplemental article granted additional sections to his sons, including one to Thomas Jefferson Pitchlynn (1816–1862) and two to John Jack Pitchlynn (1792–1831).

1. William Ward (c1769–1836) was the Choctaw agent. Pitchlynn's daughters were Eliza Ann (1818–1861), Elizabeth (1820–1896), and Kiziah (1824–1858). Article 14 of the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek granted a 640-acre homestead to any Choctaw family head who declared an intention to stay and become a citizen of Mississippi, plus a half section (320 acres) for each resident unmarried child over age 10 and a quarter section for each child under 10 (*Indian Treaties*, 2:313–14). Article 19 also granted 50 acres to each family head with a house and fifty acres under cultivation. AJ referred Pitchlynn's letter to Attorney General Taney, who on September 9 tendered an opinion that Pitchlynn could claim land under either Article 14 or 19 of the treaty, but not both (*HRDoc* 123, 26th Cong., 2d sess., p. 838, Serial 387).

2. John Jack Pitchlynn had married Leila Colbert (d. 1831), daughter of Chickasaw chief Levi Colbert. AJ as U.S. commissioner had negotiated the Choctaw cession treaty of Doak's Stand in 1820.

From John Christmas McLemore

Nashville 19t. Augt. 1831.

My Dear Friend

Mr. Asa Green of Robertson County an old acquaintence of yours and the same who was with you throughout the Creek War is in trouble

about a Suit which was brot against him as Dillons tennant, for land in Robertson County, which you sold many years past to Dillon. Mr. Green says you understand the case without further refference. It seems Suit was brot against him in the Federal court, and upon trial he lost it, and refused to take an appeal because he says he had expended near four hundred Dollars in cost lawyers fees &c and being poor & a large family to support he was unable to take it further—upon this representation of the case, Judge Brown who was then Dillons lawyer applied to me to become your Security to take it up to the Supreme Court, giving it as his opinion that there was no doubt if it was taken up Dillon wou'd succeed which wou'd protect, you, I of course agreed to become the Security and the case was accordingly taken up, with an understanding that Green shou'd not be subjected to further cost. Mr. Green is present and says that he has not employed any one to attend to the case—at Washington it is therefore important some one shou'd attend to the case. Mr. Green says that Mr. Grundy was employed on the Court here and understands all about the Case. You will therefore please employ him to attend to the case at washington. The land in dispute is not worth much yet the cost will be some thing, besides if the land is lost you will be liable to Dillon not only for this trat but for another at the mouth of Half Pone Cr[1]—upon a full statement of Mr. Greens case, I think it a hard one on him and I have said to him that I had no doubt you wou'd refund him half the Cost which will amount to about $200 with this he says he will be satisfied. When I shall have the pleasure of seeing you in November next will then explain the case more fully—and shall be glad if you can spare the time that you will drop me a line on the subject.

We have just got the good news that Chilton is beat by Haws 9 votes. Crockett is also beat by a large majority. Not a Single anti Jackson man either in the Lesgature or in Congress is elected in this State with the single exception of that scamp Arnold; his election is the only mortifying circumstance that has occurred in the elections—in this state—all Jackson with this single exception—every member elect of our next legislature declare themselves open for you. I leave here in the morning for Georgia, thence to the Western District and hope before my return to be able to sell enough property to put me more at ease. Am much pressed & hurri[ed.] All our friends are well. You are stronger in Tennessee than you ever was, indeed stronger every where as I hope & believe. May god grant you continued health & happiness[.] Sincearly & affectionately Truly your friend

Jno. C. McLemore

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr McLamore on the subject of Green Suit with Dillons heirs. Green is a bad man. When tenant to Dillon, purchased under the adverse claim & brought on the dificulty. answered 1rst Septr. 1831—A. J. to be kept on private files

ALS, DLC (39). In 1802, AJ sold 640 acres of land in Robertson County, Tenn., to Edward Dillon (*Jackson Papers*, 1:451). In 1829 Henry Neal had brought suit under a rival title to eject Dillon's tenant Asa Green. The U.S. circuit court for the western district of Tennessee found for Neal. Green, represented by Felix Grundy, appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court to reverse the decision. In January 1832 the Court found for Green on grounds that federal courts should be guided in their construction of a state statute by its settled construction in the state's courts rather than by their own precedents. Under Tennessee's statute of limitations, as construed by its supreme court, Dillon's uncontested possession for more than seven years under his deed from AJ settled his title and barred Neal's claim (*Green v. Lessee of Neal*, 31 U.S. Reports 291–301).

1. AJ had sold Dillon a second tract of 624 acres in Montgomery County, Tenn., on the same day in 1802 (*Jackson Papers*, 1:452).

From Edward Livingston

(Private)

Montgomery Place August 22d 1831

My Dear General

At length we have the packet of the first of July, and letters from Mr. Rives, confirming the Reports before received through the english papers, which were accurate except the omission of the article reducing the duty on our *long Staple Cotton*

We may daily now expect the treaty which I unreservedly approve and, from what was said the day I last saw you I think will receive your approbation and that of your Cabinet. We shall so soon receive the treaty itself that I think it best to authorise no publication until it arrives altho the publicity given to the Stipulations by the french ministry renders it impossible and unnecessary to keep it secret that such arrangements are on the point of being made. I am anxious to see the form in which he has stipulated that the sum is to be distributed among the claimants, but I make no doubt he will have attended to the instructions on that important point

I congratulate you sir most sincerely on this important arrangement which will form so marked a place in the picture you will be enabled to present to the nation of its foreign relations. Rives deserves the highest praise for the manner in which he has conducted this difficult negociation

Upon reflexion perhaps something like the enclosed notice might be advantageously published. I leave that to your discretion—and shall myself in conversation only say that the basis of an arrangement has been agreed on honorable to the country & that will probably be found satisfactory to the parties most interested. I am with the greatest respect Your Friend & Hbl Serv

Edw Livingston

ALS, DLC (39). Rives had written Livingston privately on June 29 outlining the terms of the claims convention about to be signed (Rives Papers, DLC). His letter reached New York by the packet *Helvetia* on August 21.

From Wawealippe et al.

Whereas in the Treaty lately concluded at Wapaghkonetta, between James B. Gardenier Commissioner on the part of the United States, and the Chiefs and Head Men of the Shawanoese Nation, there is no means provided, or stipulations made for the payment of the debts due by the Shawanoese to Citizens of the United States; and whereas it has always been the practise with the Government of the U.S. in purchasing out and removing whole nations of Indians, to become accountable for their debts, in as much as the Indians having to remove west of the Mississippi are thereby prevented from ever being able to discharge their debts in the country they have left. The Chiefs and Head Men of the said Nation now in Council at Piqua, do therefore most earnestly represent to The Secretary of War, and to the Government at large thro' him, that provision be made for the payment of their debts, agreeable to the following schedule. To wit.

George C. Johnston	$20,500.00
Mary Ann Caldwell	412.00
Nicholas Greenham	100.00
N. F. Brodrick	350.00
Hilliard & French	30.00
	$21,392.00

The Chiefs and Head Men further respectfully and earnestly represent, that in the late Treaty aforesaid, the improvements of the Shawanoese is greatly underrated in value, as they verily beleive, not more than one fourth their real worth is assigned for the purpose They therefore pray the President of the U.S. and Secretary of War, to take measures for doing them justice in this particular, and to this end, they ask that the Secretary of War may appoint two disinterested and competent men who shall value their said improvements on oath and make report to him of their proceedings

Fathers the President of the U.S. and Secretary of War, we send you the foregoing as the true sentiments of our hearts, and beseech you to have pity upon us, and comply with our wishes

Given at Piqua Ohio, the 22d. day of August, 1831—

Wawealippe, Speaker of the Nation	his mark	X
Lolaway or Perry	his mark	X
Quasky	his mark	X
Mc.Nair	his mark	X
Spy Buck	his mark	X

H. Clay his mark X
Letho his mark X

The foregoing address was delivered in our presence and faithfully interpreted and signed by the Chiefs, and is as we believe their act and Deed—

John Johnston
F Duchouquet United States Interpr.
John Maffett interper.
Robt. J. Skinner Receiver Public Moneys Piqua
Thos. B. Vn. Horne Register " "

[Five additional signatures follow.]

DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-601). Wawealippe or Wiwelipea (1760–1843), John Perry or Lolliway (c1775–1843), Quasakee (c1760–1853), David McNair, Spy Buck, Henry Clay or Nolesimo, and Letho were all signatories to the treaty concluded August 8 by commissioner James B. Gardiner with the Wapaghkonetta and Hog Creek Shawnees. John Johnston (1775–1861) was the former Indian agent at Piqua, removed by AJ for John McElvain in 1829. He forwarded this appeal to Secretary of War Cass on August 24, saying that the Shawnees had not understood the treaty and that their improvements, valued therein at $13,000, were worth at least $50,000. On September 3, Thomas B. Van Horne (1783–1841), register of the Piqua land office, wrote Cass that in the days since witnessing this appeal, he had learned that Johnston had concocted it at the instance of his cousin, trader George C. Johnston (1793–1876), to secure payment of the latter's mostly fictitious $20,000 claim against the Shawnees (DNA-RG 75, M234-601). Indian superintendent Samuel S. Hamilton replied for Cass to Van Horne on September 21 that his information would be used "at the proper time . . . if it should be necessary" (DNA-RG 75, M21-7). On February 7, 1832, Indian superintendent Elbert Herring wrote the Shawnees that their debts were "a private concern between yourselves and your Creditors, with which this Department cannot interfere" (DNA-RG 75, M21-8). Nicholas Greenham (d. 1864) and Nehemiah F. Brodrick (1805–1879) were traders, Robert J. Skinner (c1792–1849) was receiver at the land office, and Francis Duchouquet (1751–1831) was an interpreter and trader.

To Edward Livingston

Washington, Aug. 23. 31.

Dear Sir,

Your favor of the 18th, with its enclosures, has come to hand. Similar statements in relation to Mr Jeffers having reached me from a different quarter, no time was lost in endeavoring to stop him before his departure from the U.S. He was written to on the 15th—but as the ship had been for some time waiting for him, it is probable he will have sailed as soon as he reached there, and before the letter does. An application has also been addressed to the clerk of the Court in Ohio, for a copy of the record said to be in existence.

I see in this case no ground whatever, for disquietude. The worst consequence that would attend it—and that would be far from bad—is to make our friends a little more mindful of the obligation they are under, not to mislead the Executive by recommending men into whose characters they have not given themselves the trouble thoroughly to enquire.

We have been very much favored here with refreshing breezes, & the heat has not been so oppressive as it seems to have been with you. The paint, however, more than makes up the difference; and what is worse, there is no prospect of an early end of it. The trip you recommend would, no doubt, be beneficial; but I cannot absent myself until it has appeared that nothing will come from France requiring my immediate action—nor then, until I can leave at the seat of government a greater portion of the cabinet than is now here. Accept for Mrs Livingston, for yourself & for Cora, my friendly salutations[1]

Andrew Jackson

LS in Nicholas P. Trist's hand, NjP-Livingston Papers (mAJs). William N. Jeffers of New Jersey had been commissioned chargé d'affaires to Central America on June 14, and arrangements were made for him to sail from Pensacola. On August 8, four New Jersey Jacksonians headed by Samuel Utter wrote AJ to alert him to a recent charge in the *Cincinnati Gazette* that Jeffers had been indicted for forgery in Ohio in 1810 and had failed to appear to defend himself, forfeiting his recognizance. They urged requiring him to clear the charge before departing. So did New Jersey senator Mahlon Dickerson, who had recommended Jeffers and who wrote AJ on August 10 (DNA-RG 59, M179-71). At AJ's direction, acting secretary of state Daniel Brent wrote Jeffers on August 15, requiring him to refute the charge before sailing. The next day Brent sent to Ohio for a copy of the record (DNA-RG 59, M40-22 & M77-9). On August 23, Daniel Gano (1794–1873), clerk of the Hamilton County court of common pleas, sent Brent a certified record showing that Jeffers was indicted in 1810 for forging a $60,000 bond to himself and failed to appear at trial (DNA-RG 59, M179-71). AJ noted Jeffers's case in his memorandum book on or near September 8 (below).

1. Cora Livingston (1806–1873) was Livingston's daughter. She married Thomas Pennant Barton in 1833.

From Samuel Fisher Bradford

Philada. Augt. 23d, 1831.

Dear General,

When I last had the pleasure of visiting you, I mentioned my refusal to subscribe to Simpson's paper, but that I told his friends who waited on me, that, if his family was in want, I would subscribe liberally for their aid, but not a cent for his paper. His family in want! said you, with a noble emotion, ~~say~~ tell him to send me the boy that is named after me, and I will educate him and bring him up as my own child. I was charmed with the benevolent & sudden burst of feeling you exhibited, but, on reflection, I concluded that Simpson is so wicked & malevolent that if he did not reject the proposition with scorn, he would at least attribute it to fear & perhaps publish it to the world and endeavour to make it out a bribe to prevent his

attacking you. Under this impression & still convinced that such would be the result of the offer, I have not communicated the request to him & will not until you have reconsidered the matter & given me your determination. I do not see how you can, with any propriety, make the offer while he is fulminating every kind of lies and abuse against you. I feel satisfied the request was made in haste and on the sudden impulse of benevolence, without full reflection, and have, therefore, ventured to delay the performance of your commission.

I find, that, notwithstanding, the many kind services I have rendered him from time to time, he has honored me by a slight attack. In one of his numbers he says I waited on him in the back room of the Mercury office and offered him the situation of Deputy collector of the port of Philada. If it were worth while to answer any of his lies, I could say, with perfect truth, that I have no recollection of ever being empowered by you to do so, or of ever having made such an offer to him. Some one else may have made such an offer, and at this distant period, he may have thought I was the person. One third of all he writes is from the workings of his imagination and he verily believes the fictions to be truths, one third are sheer fabrications and he himself does not believe a word of them, and the other third may be facts. With great respect, your friend & Servt.

Sam F Bradford.

[Endorsed by AJ:] Major Bradford answd. that he acted wisely in not communicating to S. my benevolent expression, with regard to the child, he would have viewed it as a bribe—and request that he might not A J Augst 25th. 1831. *Private*

ALS, DLC (40). Bradford (1776–1837) was a Philadelphia publisher. AJ replied on August 25 (below). On August 3, Stephen Simpson had published in the Philadelphia *United States' Gazette* the first of a series of public letters detailing his break with AJ and severely censuring the administration. In his fifth letter, written August 20 and published in the *Gazette* on August 23, Simpson charged that in 1829, after he had criticized AJ's Cabinet appointments in the paper he then edited, the *Philadelphia Mercury*, Bradford had called on him, took him into a back room, and in AJ's name offered to make him deputy surveyor of the port of Philadelphia. Simpson's new paper was the *Pennsylvania Whig*.

To Anthony Butler

[The italicized passage in this text was written in a numeric code. It has been decoded using the key in Ralph E. Weber, United States Diplomatic Codes and Ciphers, 1775–1938 *(Chicago: Precedent Publishing, 1979), pp. 478–89. The code included symbols for punctuation but not capitalization. Capitals are supplied here; and apparent coding errors, made*

by mis-entering a digit or reversing two adjacent digits, are corrected in following brackets.]

Confidential

Washington City
24 August 1831.

D Sir,

We are without advice from you since your favour of June last.

I feel great anxiety with regard to the boundary between us and Mexico. It is very important that it should be permanently fixed, before the meeting of our next Congress. I cannot, therefore, refrain from again bringing it to your view, and urging that no pains be spared to accomplish this desirable object. The great exertions which are now making to fill that country with emigrants from all countries and climes, by those who hold, or rather pretending to hold, grants for land in Texas, under the Mexican Government, is conclusive to my ~~that~~ mind that if the boundary between us, is not soon established, that portion of her territory (Texas) must be lost to her for ever. I am just informed that daily preparations, by a wealthy company, are making in Boston, New York, and New Orleans to transport, this ~~Spring~~ Summer, ten thousand emigrants to that Country. When these get possession and become permanently fixed, they will soon avail themselves of some pretext to throw off the Mexican authority and form an independent Government of their own. This would beget great disquietude, and might eventually endanger the peace and tranquility of both countries that now so happily exist.

The following Statement has been made to me by a gentleman in whom confidence has heretofor~~n~~e been reposcd [reposed]. Your situation will enable you to judge of its accuracy and if it be true you ned [need] not be advised of the important influence which it place destineg to precercise [is destined to exercise] upon your negotiations. It is confidently stated that Dr Allemand is deeply interested in the large grants referred to. It is also stated and no doubt that Zavmosta has sold is [it] to large capitalis missions [capitalists] in Boston and New York who are engaged in senlowg [sending] the emigrants tooken of above [spoken of above] to Texas.[1] *The professed object of this company is to make money and that is probable but it may be to cover their real design of numing [forming] an independent government there. Zavmosta has received I am told one hundred thousand dollars. I also understand from the same source that these companies have despatched their agents to England France Spain and Switzminelanlight [Switzerland] for emigrants while others are collecting the Irish emigrants at New York 2 other agents are said to have been sent to Madrid for dure [the] purpose of watchlation [watching] operations there and it is hinted that if the United States will not purchase Texas application is to be made to England. In whatever you do look wer~~e~~ll to*

your instructions upon the subject of grants the conditions of which have not been complied; they mpst [must] not be disregarded.[2] *It who [would] be useless to attempt to impress upon you the importance of dispatch in whatever you do. You can not be insensible to it.*

Keep us constantly advised—write at least every ten days that we may know the state of affairs in Mexico. We have been waiting with great anxiety for the result of the commercial Treaty with that Country. I hope our patience will not be much longer taxed, and that the treaty, when we get it, will give general satisfaction. Before concluding I must again insit on your keeping us better advised with regard to the passing events of that Country. In hopes to hear from you very soon I am with great respect your mo. obdt. Servt.

Andrew Jackson

LS, TxU (18-0582). The main text is in William B. Lewis's hand, the encoded passage in Daniel Brent's, and the closing sentence in AJ's.

1. Dr. Allemand was Lucas Alamán, and Zavmosta was probably Lorenzo de Zavala. Butler had addressed these reports in his May 25 letter to AJ (above).

2. To avoid repeating the difficulties caused by dubious Spanish land grants in Florida, Van Buren's original August 25, 1829, instructions to Butler's predecessor Joel Poinsett for a Texas negotiation had stipulated that the cession treaty must not bind the U.S. to recognize title to Mexican land grants whose terms had not been completely fulfilled. AJ had repeated the admonition directly to Butler (DNA-RG 59, M77-152; *Jackson Papers*, 7:367–68, 489).

To Samuel Fisher Bradford

(Private)

Washington August 25th. 1831

My Dr Sir

I have just recd. your kind letter of the 23rd. instant & hasten to reply to it—you have acted wisely in not giving to Mr Simpson my benevolent expressions with regard to his child named for me—he would believe it was intended as a means of silencing his abuse. When in fact, it was an expression resulting from my determination at no time hereafter, or under any circumstances to give him office, and under this feeling, tho', I despised the course of the father, and viewed him entirely devoid of principle, or truth, that to his child called for me, who was said to be in poverty, that I would extend liberality & take & educate it. Therefore, it ~~were~~ was wise in you, not to say any thing to Simpson on the subject—let him take his course, & hereafter I can take mine as to the child. Mr Simpson must be in fault as it regards your offering him the Situation of Dept. Collector &c &c for I assure you, you nor no other individual ever were authorised by me to make such a proposition to him—you have more charity for Mr Simpson than I have, for I do not believe he thinks half he

states to be true—he knows them to be totally false. The best way is to let him pass without any notice whatever, and he will sink into oblivion.

In great haste & no time to copy this scrall, I am your friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, John M. Taylor (18-0586).

From Levi Woodbury

Portsmouth. (NH.) 25th. Aug. 1831.

Dear Sir,

I am happy to inform you of my arrival at this place in good health. I found all my family well.

We completed yesterday the inspection of the Yards; and the Commissioners, with the exception of Com. Stewart, who has been ill at Boston, but is now better, are on their way homewards.[1]

I shall proceed with all practicable dispatch to make the necessary preparations for the removal of my family and hope to be able to get them ready for the journey in 12 or 14 days at the farthest.

We have no special news. The rumours very current in this region as to the adjustment of the French Claims will I trust prove to be well founded. Our farmers are thrifty under the increased markets for their produce; our merchants prosperous in the extended navigation growing out of the adjustment of the West India difficulties and our manufactories never more profitable to their proprietors.[2]

My respects to the members of your family and believe me With great regard Your friend & Ob. Ser.

Levi Woodbury

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr. Woodbury—recd. August 30th. 1831—

ALS, NjP (18-0589).

1. In August, Woodbury and the three senior captains composing the Board of Navy Commissioners—John Rodgers (1773–1838), Charles Stewart (1778–1869), and Daniel Todd Patterson (1786–1839)—conducted an inspection tour of northern naval stations, concluding with navy yards at Boston and Portsmouth.

2. After a negotiation, AJ had proclaimed the reopening of direct trade with the British West Indies on October 5, 1830 (Richardson, 2:497–99).

Memorandum on Thomas Aspinwall

Memorandom—the secretary of State to write to Mr Aspinwall, for an explanation why he interfered in the case of the two american citizens charged with piracy—& why it was that our Minister did not interfere

The case ~~of~~ is one of delicacy, for the Govt. disbursing money in behalf of citizens charged with Piracy, that the President, cannot approve the account until he receives explanations on this point.

AN, THer (18-0606). Thomas Aspinwall (1786–1876) had been U.S. consul at London since 1815. He had recently submitted an account for £18.15.4 in legal expenses incurred in behalf of Andrew Clarke and Thomas Neill, two American sailors charged by the British government with piracy for slave dealing. AJ wrote Daniel Brent on the matter on August 27 (below).

To Daniel Brent

Aug. 27. '31

The President directs that the acting Secretary of State write to Mr. Aspinwall, consul of the U.S. at London, for an explanation of the course pursued by him with regard to the two seamen, to whom the account relates which has been presented for approval. Piracy being a crime which divests the offender of all national character, and subjects him to the uncontrolled authority of the nation which may first seize & secure him, the interference of an agent of this government in behalf of men in ~~the~~ custody of the legal authorities of a foreign government, under a charge of piracy, is a ~~matter~~ measure of such delicacy, that the President cannot sanction the disbursement of public money to the purpose, until he receives satisfactory explanations on the subject.

A. J.

DS in Nicholas P. Trist's hand, DNA-RG 59 (M179-71). LC, DNA-RG 59 (M78-3); LC, DLC (60). Brent wrote Aspinwall for an explanation on September 2 (DNA-RG 59, M78-3). Aspinwall replied to Livingston on December 26 that Clarke and Neill had been tricked in 1829 into engaging at Havana on the Spanish brig *Providence*, not realizing it was a slaver. The *Providence* was seized off the Bahamas by a British cruiser, and Clarke and Neill were held as pirates under British law, having lost their proofs of U.S. citizenship. Persuaded of their innocence, Aspinwall had engaged counsel for their defense. He had fully informed U.S. minister Louis McLane what he was doing, and he had attempted no diplomatic intercession with the British government, leaving that option to McLane. Aspinwall insisted to Livingston that the denationalization of a pirate occurred only on conviction, not on mere accusation, and that until convicted an accused seaman was entitled to his government's protection. Further, in this case the charge was "an evident mistake," and the British grand jury in fact had freed Clarke and Neill rather than prosecute (DNA-RG 59, T168-12).

To Willie Blount

(Copy)

Washington Augst 29, 1831.

My Dr. Sir,

I have received your letter of the 8th inst. and sincerely regret to hear of your bad state of Health, which has compelled you to forego a course of medicine to regain it, but I am truly happy to learn from your letter, that your are in a fair way of recovery. for your perfect health and happiness, I send you my best wishes. Of my New Cabinet, you rightly judge; It will harmonize. The member's of it can have no electioneering views that will lead to discord, and if they should I trust I have sufficient energy yet, to put it down. Harmony I will have, it is necessary, for the good of the country that it should exist, and it must be maintained; the people, not demagogues, placed me hear, not to make *President's*, but to administer the Government, for the prosperity and happiness of the whole.

This I will perform agreeable to my best judgement, regardless of all consequences.

It is a source of much gratification to learn that you are pleased with my new Cabinet, and have confidence in it—it has mine fully—& it is to be hoped that we will get on well. The want of harmony in my old Cabinet was a source of much pain & regret to me, and therefore made its reorganization a matter of necessity.

The magnanimity and patriotism of Mr. Van Buren and Majr Eaton, induced them to resign. When this took place, justice to myself, to them & to my country, compelle'd me to renew the whole. The others ought to have withdrawn on the intimation of the resignation of Van Buren & Eaton without hesitation or complaint, but it seem's the order's of Mr. Calhoun as I believe forbade this course, as from their own showing, it now appear's from the first, they had secretly combined to drive Majr Eaton from my Cabinet and too, their friend, who was instrumental in bringing Branch and Berrien into it; and from their conduct seem'd to be his most devoted friend's. Still they could plot, & combine for his destruction. Being deprived of the talents of Van Buren an Eaton, who I found worthy of every confidence, it would have been very unsafe & imprudent, to have kept those three in my Cabinet, and added two to them, after they had displayed such treachery to me, and who were secretly wielded by Calhoun, and whose whole view was, to bring him into the Presidency regardless of the success of my administration; or the measures I had recommended to Congress.

Never being formed for an incubus in office, or for a tool to corrupt conspirators, I renewed my Cabinet proper, with men of virtue, and of mind, who will join me with an eye single to the public good, leaving the people to make their own President, and elect their own agents, free from

any interference by them, and who will not be secretly wielded by Mr. Calhoun to athwart all my measures, and acts as mere puppets to exalt him to the height of his ambition, disregarding in the mean time the great interests of our beloved country.

From the expose by Mr Calhoun in his book, it appear's from his course pursued respecting the Seminole campaign that he is capable of much, & great duplicity—he found Mr. Ingham Branch & Berrien fit subjects for his views, as in the Siminole affair, whilst he was professing friendship and approbation, he was secretly, as it appears thro. such agents as these, trying to destroy me. The attempt of these Judas's has failed, and has recoiled upon themselves. ?Was there ever greater infamy unfolded? Whilst these men were professing for me the greatest friendship, whilst acting as part of my constitutional advisers, they were taking notes, and holding meetings to reconcile their statements that here after they might be able to certify, or swear for each other, as occasion might require, without contradicting each other, & that all might pass for truth, &c. Col Johnston's letter, and the contradiction of Berrien in his, & Ingham's statement, has prostrated them forever. And old faithful Pennsylvania, remains as unshaken as a rock, & Virginia stronger than ever.

That you may have it in your power to judge correctly of Mr. Calhoun's duplicity, I enclose you for your information, a Copy of Mr. J Rhea's confidential letter to Mr. Munroe, and Judge Overton's statement, which you can take into view, when you read Mr. Calhoun's book containing, in part, his correspondence with me, and when you take into view the explination of his order's, in his letter to Governor Bibb; "that I was authorized to conduct the war as I might judge best"—with what justice he could move, secretly in the Cabinet Council, my punishment, and with what consistency he could do this, when to myself and friends, in his letter's, and speeches, he was professing the warmest friendship for me, & approving all my acts in the Seminole campaign—if there is not ample proof of his duplicity, and I might add depravity, I am a stranger to what constitutes either and I am sure you will agree with me, that the evidence produced by Ingham, Berrien Duff Green & Co. gives ample evidence of the propriety of my withdrawing my confidence from them, as it was dangerous to have such near me. I am sir very respectfully your friend.

Signed A Jackson

Copy in AJ Jr.'s hand, DLC (40). Blount (1768–1835) had been governor of Tennessee from 1809 to 1815. He replied about September 20 (below).

To Lewis Cass

August 29th. 1831—

The President with his respects to the Secretary of war, and reflecting on the subject of a fit person to superintend the enrolling, conducting & feeding of the emigrants from the cherokee Indians East to the west side of the Mississippi and aiding in the valuation of improvements, presents Benjamin Franklin Curry of McMinville Tennessee as a fit person for that appointment he is enterprising & honest, with great energy of character

AN, MiU-C (18-0618). On September 1, Cass sent Currey news of his appointment and detailed instructions for carrying it out (*SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 328–31, Serial 245). The instructions enclosed and largely recapitulated the removal project that AJ formally sanctioned on September 2 (below).

To Richard Gilliam Dunlap

Washington August 29th. 1831—

Dear Sir

your letter of the 10th. instant is just recd. and, perceiving that you are in error, as I presume, for the want of correct information on two points, I am induced, notwithstanding the press of business with which I am surrounded, to give you a reply. I thank you for the expression of your "admiration for such noble friendship" as you are pleased to assert has characterised my conduct towards my friends. But when you accord to me the justice of preserving "fidelity to friends," and applaud me for it, I must confess, that I am somewhat surprised, on the expression of the intimation that I should attempt to "dispell the suspicions of the times" by driving from me individuals who have been sincere in their friendship for me, and by whom, I have never yet been deceived. I however indulge the hope that, when correctly advised of facts, your opinions and consequently your wishes on this subject will be changed. The connection which exists between Major Lewis & myself, when truly understood, can do no injury with true friends, and you are sufficiently acquainted with my character to know, that I am always regardless of my enemies. Every term of the Presidency there are $14,000 appropriated by congress for the renewal, and repairs of furniture for the Presidents House.[1] An honest and faithfull agent is necessary to disburse this mony, and having full confidence in Major Lewis, I have constituted him this agent. If I had not him to whom else could I entrust it? My son is too young, and, if he was not, it would be improper that he, or any of my connections should have the agency. Major Lewis I know to be honest, faithfull and true to me, and therefore it is my enemies abuse him, and complain that I have him near me. Why

were not these complaints made before I left the Hermitage, where he was fifteen or twenty years an intimate in my House, had at pleasure, the perusal of my papers, and enjoyed my full confidence? And shall I now, after the efficcient services he has rendered, drive him from me because his enemies slander, and abuse him? It would be but a short time, if I was to persue this course, before I should have to seperate myself from *all my* friends. It is then, my dear Sir, not the best evidence of friendship which can be given, to insist on the adoption of such a course. I have been, for some time aware of the fact, that Ingham, Berrien, Branch, Duff Green & Co—the agents of Calhoun—have been secretely at work with their note Books &c &c, to prejudice Major Lewis in the estimation of the public, and my friends. I had supposed that my true friends would be on their guard, and not adopt the sentiments, & slang, of these men, without giving some attention to the facts which stand opposed to all their assertions; and it pains me to learn that the conduct of some, who have long professed to cherish the strongest attachment for me, shews, that they have too willingly imbibed the opinions of my enemies. You correctly suppose that there is "no man" in this Union would sooner denounce any interference, on the part of the executive, with the state elections than myself; but injustice is done to truth, when it is suspected that I, by the conduct of Major Lewis, have evinced the least desire to control the elections. Major Lewis has positively denied any interference with state elections, since he has been here, and in the absence of proof to support the allegations against him, would it not be unjust, ungratefull in me to determine him guilty? If any proof exists against him, the rancour with which the feelings of his enemies have been characterised, induces the positive conclusion that they would long since have adduced it. I have too keenly felt the injustice done by the slander of enemies to give a believing ear to the mere assertions of the enemies of any individual. I confidently believe that the suspicions, which you say exists, as to Major Lewis interfering in elections are as groundless as Calhouns plots against Van Buren (of which Van Buren is as innocent as a babe) and are entirely immaginary. But I will close this subject with the remark, that if I am to drive away and discard my friends without cause, to obtain popularity, I will not have it on such terms, and would despise myself if I thought, or even suspected, that I was capable of purchasing it by such dishonorable means. But I must ask where is the Patriot, that I have near, or around me, who is not made a target for the vilest slander, and detraction? and when that upright man & incorruptible Patriot—H. L. White—has been made the subject of the vilest charges by the profligate Arnold (and there are many besides him that do not bear the name, although equally corrupt) how can you expect that here—the focus of intrigue and corruption—either I, or those around me can escape? It would not only be unjust, as I have before intimated, but a dangerous system to abandon friends, without sufficient cause, merely, because they become the object of abuse by our enemies.

The other point which I propose noticing has referrence to the relations which existed between Mr Calhoun, Mr Crawford, and myself, and some suspicions which you inform me, you entertained in respect to "the conduct of several of (my) suite' to Neworleans in 1828. Every one who has known me, knows full well the high regard I *once* entertained for Mr. Calhoun. Mr. Crawford was my political enemy, and Mr Calhoun and he, at the time of the Seminole campaign, and long after the decision of the subject which grew out of it, were bosom friends, and so remained up to 1821 or 22. I had frequent, full, and free conversations with Mr Calhoun on the subject of the Seminole campaign, and denounced Mr Crawford for the course which I understood he was pursuing against me in the Cabinet. Ought not Mr Calhoun to have frankly told me, that he was not, as I supposed him, my advocate in the secrete Cabinet Council, and that I did injustice to his friend Mr Crawford, in respect to his conduct, on that occasion? It does seem to me that an high minded and honorable man would have done so. Mr. Calhoun at all times and on all occasions, so far as I was *then* advised, professed to be my uniform and stedfast friend, and throghout the canvass for President, was regarded my *undeviating* friend, and not until he shew to the contrary, in his correspondence with me, which he has choose to publish, was the sincerity of his professions ever questioned by me, nor did I even suspect that any of my friends indulged the slightest suspicion that he was not *sincerely* the warm and decided advocate of my election. I am perfectly confident that Major Lewis never did hold the least suspicion of Mr Calhouns duplicity to me, untill late in 1829. You say "none can doubt, but that, the explosion of my Cabinet with its precursor *the correspondence* with Mr Calhoun, will bring new and spirited adversaries in the field against" me; and that "how to meet them can be better ascertained by searching out the true cause which first agitated the harmony" &c &c. I have the pleasure to inform you, on this subject, that the task you recommend has already been performed, and you will find the result of my labours in the reorganization of my Cabinet proper. I am now relieved from an intercourse with Ingham, Branch & Berrien, who have shewn that they were unworthy of the confidence reposed in them, and regarded the interest of a certain aspirant to the Presidency more than they consulted the harmony of my Cabinet, and the consequent prosperity of my administration, and the Country. By the change I have secured the services of those who are competant and *true*, and it affords me pleasure to learn that my fellow citizens approbate the course which their best interest imperiously demanded at my hands. You also remark that "while passing down the river (Missippi) Major Lewis's mind seemed to be filled with suspicions about impending and projected injuries awaiting (my) fate" and that "he was as usual busy and apparently kind to" me, and that you "believed, either that he was alarmed at phantoms of his own fancy, or that he desired to ingratiate himself deep in (my) favor by his officious airs towards (my) election." I must confess

that I am not a little surprised to find that you thus "believed," & am unwilling to suppose that, if you had been aware of the character of the intercourse with Major Lewis, and the then attending circumstances, that you, would not have been the subject of such suspicions. I would suppose from the tenor of your letter that you have forgotten the nature of the correspondence between Mr Monroe and my friend judge White in respect to a speech delivered by the latter in reply to a toast in honor of me, given, by a company, on the 8th of January 1827 in this city. If you did not then know I ~~will~~ now inform you that this correspondence was commenced by Mr Monroe, and that he and Southard had threatened to write a Book. It was charged, or rather asserted that the controversy growing out of the Seminole War wa again to be agitated, that my violation of the constitution & my orders was plainly to be shewn, and indeed that I had deserted my post, left the army, and was returning home, and would not have saved Neworleans, but that Mr Monroe had met me with a preremtory order to return. It was this threatened attack, not by Mr Adams, but by Mr Monroe to judge White, and by Mr Southard through the public journals, which Major Lewis & Col Hamilton, I suppose, were preparing to meet. My friends at Washington were much alarmed on this subject, and the correspondence having been made known to me, I furnished the means of defence, then at hand, to judge White. Major Lewis was fully advised of the threats which were made, and no doubt on this, as on every other occasion, he felt anxious to obtain all the facts necessary to my defence—he was one of my most efficient friends in collecting information and preparing documents for the Nashville committee in my defence. Now my dear Sir, as light as you have made of this matter, Mr Monroe did intend to write (as Mr Calhoun has done) a Book. If the impression could have been made that Mr Monroe, in order to save Neworleans, had to order me to re~~turn~~race my steps after I had started home &c &c, it would have added greatly to his reputation. Notwithstanding Mr Monroe knew that Mr Rheas letter ~~was~~ to me was burned, he perceived from my letter to Mr Southard that I was prepared at every point, and therefore the project of the Book was abandoned. You seem to have forgotten that Mr Monroe had charged me with transcending my orders—we were at issue on this point, notwithstanding he approved my conduct, as he professed, on a knowledge of the circumstances which attended it.[2]

you say that "Mr. Calhouns fidelity to (me) was alluded to before we left Nashville as being questionable." This is new to me, and I have said anough already to satisfy you on this subject, and will only add that, as early as 1824, '25, I was informed on high authority that it was Mr Calhoun and not Mr Crawford who had moved my arrest. Because of the circumstances to which I have alluded in connection with others not necessary to mention, I did not, nay I could not give credence to the information, unless I had come to the conclusion that he was one of the most depraved. I could not believe that any man, possessing the standing

he then held in society, could be so depraved as to practice such duplicity. Aside from his repeated assurances of friendship, I knew that he had not only issued my orders; but had so explained them himself as could leave no doubt of my correct interpretation of them, and, therefore could not suppose that he would secretely attempt to destroy me for acting in obedience to my orders, and accomplishing the wishes of Mr Monroe and himself as confidentially expressed to me thro' Mr Rhea. I regard the sentiments contained in Mr Rheas letter as expressive of Mr Calhoun's wishes as well as those of Mr. Monroe, because Mr. C., as I believe, was well advised in respect to the confidential letter which Mr Rhea wrote me under the directions of Mr. Monroe.

I am truly astonished at the contempt you now express for "the conduct of several of my ~~staff~~ suite," on my tour to New-Orleans—according to my recollection, I had but Major Lewis and Mr. Earle who were specially invited to take charge of my family; a circumstance which would, in my opinion, have rendered any "officious airs towards (my) election" by Major Lewis, unnecessary, in order "to ingratiate himself," if he had wished it "in (my) favour." Governor Houston & staff (consisting of yourself, Genl Smith & Col Martin, as I understood) Judge Overton, Doctor Shelby & Major Donelson. I am sure that I perceived nothing, to which I should take exceptions, in the conduct of any of my "suit," or Col Hamilton, who was not one of it, but acted in a higher sphere, being one of the representatives chosen by the Republicans of Newyork, to meet, and congratulate me on the plains of Neworleans on the 8th. of January[3]

I discovered no attempt on the part of any of my suit, or Col Hamilton, to obtrude upon me. With them or Col Hamilton I had but little or no conversation on the subjects of politics, from the time we embarked untill we returned. I have no recollection of having had any conversation on the subject of Mr. Monroes Book during the trip, nor at any time on that subject with Col Hamilton—he was for the first time introduced to me at the Hermitage a few days before we set out, and I had no secrete conversation with him on any subject, and I assure you the matters you now detail, were unknown to me Neither of these gentlemen attempted to arouse my fears on the subject of my election, either *then* or at *any other time*; and you judge very incorrectly of me, if you suppose that my fears can be aroused on any occasion, & particularly on the subject of the Presidency, for you, as well as all my friends know, that I am here, not by my own wishes, but the will and wishes of the people. The Hermitage is my choice. I am however, at all times prepared to defend myself or friends when unjustly assailed—and I assure you, that you have done great injustice to my suit on that occasion in ascribing to them the acts & motives which you have. I have written in my usual frankness and hope that the facts developed will convince you of your error. I have not time to notice the other parts of your letter. I thank you for the assurance "that your confidence is not in the least impaired in my unwavering patriotism or the

final result of the public usefulness of my administration," and beg you to accept my best wishes for your health & happiness

Andrew Jackson

P.S. It seems strange to me that my friends in Tennessee should desire me to seperate from Major Lewis while those in other States entertain different feelings A. J.

ALS, The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History (mAJs). LS draft in George Breathitt's hand, DLC (40); Bassett, 4:336–41. AJ endorsed the draft "Genl. R. G. Dunlap—letter & answer. 29th. august 1831—To be filed. *Private* A J."

1. On March 3, 1829, Congress appropriated $14,000 "For furnishing the President's house under the direction of the President of the United States" (*Statutes*, 4:362).

2. AJ's explanation here of the origins of James A. Hamilton's 1828 inquiry about the Cabinet deliberations over the Seminole campaign follows the narrative drafted by AJ around the end of February 1831 (above) and published as a *Globe* article on March 2.

3. James A. Hamilton had attended the New Orleans celebration as one of three official delegates sent by "the Republicans of the city and county of New-York" (*US Telegraph*, February 5, 1828; *Jackson Papers*, 6:407–9). He had stayed two days with AJ at the Hermitage before accompanying him to New Orleans on the *Pocahontas*.

From Jeremiah Cobb et al.

[Early on August 22, 1831, a slave preacher named Nathaniel ("Nat") Turner (1800–1831) launched a slave revolt in Southampton County, Virginia. After killing his owner's family, Turner and his six initial followers marched toward Jerusalem, the county seat, quickly gathering several dozen recruits and killing every white person—some 55 all told—they encountered on the way. Local militia suppressed the uprising and killed or captured most of its participants by afternoon on August 23, the rebellion's second day. Meanwhile, as word spread, Virginia governor John Floyd called out the state militia, and federal troops from Fortress Monroe and marines from Norfolk were dispatched. Turner himself eluded capture until October 30. He was tried on November 5 and hanged on November 11. Jeremiah Cobb (1779–1849) was a Southampton County plantation and slave owner. As head of the county court, he later presided over Turner's trial.]

Va. Southampton County Jerusalem Augt 29th 1831

Sir,

At a meeting of the citizens of this county, called together this day, for the purpose of adobting such measures as woud restore peace and tranquility to our alarmed and terified inhabitants, we were appointed a committee, to suggest such measures as we deemed most expedient; and having maturely considered all the circumstances connected with this subject, we have thought fit to ask of your excellency that aid which at

this time we deem alone effectual. You have no doubt seen in the public papers some account of the subject alluded to; the Southampton insurrection which although exagerated in some particulars falls far short of realty in others. Most of the havoc has been confined to a limited section of our country, but so inhuman is the butchery, and so indiscriminate the Carnage that the tomahawk and Scalping Knife have now no terror. They have been lifted and fallen harmless; but along the road travelled by our rebellious blacks, comprising a distance of something like twenty miles; no white soul lives to tell how fiend like was their purpose.

In the bosom of almost every family this enemy still exists; and when it will be again arousd or if ever, no person can tell—but we are constantly excited by alarms & fears; incident to our present situation; our homes, as well those near the scene of havoc as others more remote, have all been deserted, and our families gathered together, and guarded at public places in the County, and our militia is already, worn down with fatigue, from the constant exercise of Scouting parties, and patroles; the United States troops from fortress Monroe, have already left us, and our friends from different sections of the state who have generously volunteered their services are about to leave us. Tis true our enemy has been dispersed; but the chiefs, the mainspring of the machine, which has done so much execution yet lie concealed in our County; and we believe by many they have but to will it and the same tragedy is acted over again. Exclusive of this Sir, the present season must be devoted to our farms; our fruit the staple of our country is now rotting in our orchards, our fodder is withering on its stalks. Still farther on the excitement is so great, that in behalf of the innocent blacks, confined in our jail, & no doubt there are many, humanity calls for such succour, as will enable the justices faithfully to discharge their duty; for were they at present to pronounce one innocent; we fear a mob woud be the consequence.[1] For these reasons we respectfully ask of you as a stationed guard for our County so many of the U. S. troops as you may deem necessary—this being granted our citizens can return to their homes & families, and peace and quiet will be restored to our country[.] most Respectfully yr obt Servants

Jere Cobb
Orris A Browne
Edwd. Butts
William E. Lawrence
Thomas Maget
Edwin Ricks

LS, DNA-RG 107 (M221-111). Orris A. Browne was a doctor and, like Cobb, later a judge at Turner's trial. Edward Butts (c1782–1857), William E. Lawrence, and Edwin Ricks were Southampton County slaveholders. Secretary of War Cass forwarded this appeal to Governor Floyd on September 1. On September 5, Virginia's deputy adjutant general, William H. Richardson, replied to Cass that the petitioners' fears were "groundless." State forces had

"entirely subdued" the rebellion days before they wrote, the country was quiet, and no federal aid was wanted (DNA-RG 107, M221-111).

1. Forty-five slaves and five free blacks were held for trial in Southampton County. Thirty slaves were convicted, of whom nineteen, including Turner, were hung and the rest transported out of state. Perhaps one hundred other slaves were tried and executed in neighboring counties or summarily killed in the immediate wake of the rebellion.

To Lewis Cass

August 30th. 1831—

The President with his respects to the Secretary of War, encloses to him Mr. Montgomerys letter who applies for the appointment of appraiser of the improvements of the emigrating Cherokees. The President was acquainted with Mr Montgomery when young—he was of good repu*[te]* then, and my information is, that he sustains a good reputation still, and the President believes he will make a good appraiser.

AN, MiU-C (18-0625). AJ probably enclosed James M. Montgomery's August 13 letter (above). On September 3, Cass wrote Montgomery appointing him to appraise the property of volunteer Cherokee emigrants from Georgia (*SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 334–35, Serial 245).

To John Reynolds

Washington, Aug. 31. 1831.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 15th inst., which would have been answered immediately, but that it was thought best to wait a few days for the communication from General Gaines, presumed by you to have been received. That communication has not yet come to hand; and as it is important that the government should be in possession of full information on the subject, in time for the meeting of Congress, I will no longer delay the request, that you will cause to be furnished at your earliest convenience, all the testimony within your reach, in relation to the following facts, detailed in your letter:

1. That the Indians forcibly took possession of lands occupied by citizens who had purchased them of the United States. 2. That they drove off those individuals, killed their stock, threw down their fences, put their horses into their wheat fields, destroyed all their crops of small grain, and committed various other depredations. 3. That they declared a determination to expel all the rightful occupants, by force of arms. 4 That the number of those concerned in these hostilities has never been estimated at less than eight hundred. 5. That they had formed leagues with other

tribes, by means of which the hostile force, but for the prompt movement of the militia, would have been, about fourteen hundred warriors. I am, Sir, very respectfully, Yr. obt. Servt.

Andrew Jackson

LS in Nicholas P. Trist's hand, I-Ar; LC, I-Ar; Abstract of draft, Connecticut Historical Center (18-0627). *Black Hawk War*, 2:154–55. Reynolds replied on October 6 (below).

Memorandum Book

[These undated notes are on the first page of a new memorandum book Jackson began keeping in 1831. Written probably in August or early September, they evidently precede the first dated entry, made September 8 on the book's next page (below).]

1831—Note Book—

Call upon the Secretary of the Treasury for a report on the insolvent Law for the purpose of laying the subject before congress next Session[1]

The claims on Spain, to be adverted in strong but decorous language in the message.[2]

The collectors letter of Newyork, on the subject of stolen jewels. referred to the secretary of the Treasury for his instructions, that the jewels be taken into his possession & held subject to the decision of the court. A Foreign ministers cannot apply to a Governor of a State except thro the Government to which he is accreditted. No power in a governor of a State to deliver to a Foreign Minister a fugitive from a foreign Government. No power in the President unless under an article of treaty, and act of congress pointing out the mode by which he is to be identified, & surrendered. No power in a foreign minister, to receive goods subject to duty & smugled, from the smuggler, and to hold them from the penalty of the law, even if stolen by the smugler.[3]

AN, DLC (64; 18-0379; 18-0389; 18-0381).

1. An Act of March 2, 1831, provided a procedure for insolvent debtors to the U.S. to compromise their debts (*Statutes*, 4:467–69). It proved ineffectual, and AJ's third annual message to Congress on December 6, 1831, recommended liberalizing its terms to "unfetter the enterprise of a valuable portion of our citizens and restore to them the means of usefulness to themselves and the community" (Richardson, 2:556).

2. Spain had rejected U.S. indemnity claims for Spanish naval depredations committed in 1822–23 under color of blockade on American commerce with Spain's former Latin American colonies. AJ wrote Livingston on the subject on September 5 and noted it again on September 8 (below). In his third annual message in December, he deemed Spain's spurning of the claims "an unfriendly denial of justice," and pledged that if Spain persisted he would

lay the matter before Congress to determine "what is proper to be done when negotiation for redress of injury fails" (Richardson, 2:549).

3. On the night of September 25, 1829, the court jewels of the Princess of Orange, valued at up to $1 million, were stolen from the royal palace in Brussels. Dutch minister Christiaan Huygens notified the U.S. government of the theft on November 19, and received assurances from Van Buren on November 24 and December 1 of State and Treasury Department cooperation in restoring the jewels if they were brought into the country (DNA-RG 59, M56-1 & M38-4). In June 1831, the thief, Constant Polari (1780–1842), smuggled the stolen jewels aboard ship into New York City. A Frenchman named John Roumage, residing at Polari's boarding house, learned of the jewels and informed customs collector Samuel Swartwout. On July 28, customs officials seized the jewels for unpaid duties. Polari was arrested on July 30. On August 1, judicial proceedings were begun to condemn the jewels as forfeited to the United States. Under the customs law, seized goods were to be held by the collector. If forfeited, they were to be sold and the seizing officers entitled to a share of the proceeds.

Before turning Polari in, Roumage had befriended him, obtained a few of the jewels on pretense of arranging their sale, and brought them to Huygens. Huygens confirmed their identity and applied to Secretary of State Livingston on July 31 to turn over the thief and the seized jewels to the Dutch government (DNA-RG 59, M56-1). Livingston consulted Attorney General Taney, who on August 4 tendered an opinion that it was up to the courts, not the executive, to determine ownership of the jewels. As the U.S. had no extradition treaty with the Netherlands, AJ also lacked authority to surrender Polari (*HRDoc* 123, 26th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 832–33, Serial 387). Livingston so informed Huygens on August 5. To help him break the impasse, Livingston on August 9 sought the interposition of New York governor Enos T. Throop, who was empowered by state law to extradite foreign criminals (DNA-RG 59, M38-4 & M40-22).

Throop ordered Polari delivered into Huygens's custody, but collector Swartwout refused in a letter of September 3 that Huygens considered insulting. Swartwout had also demanded that Huygens give up the six jewels in his possession, as smuggled goods subject to forfeiture. Huygens again appealed to Livingston, who was then in New York State. Livingston replied on September 4 that he had given instructions to put off the customs suit and for district attorney James A. Hamilton, rather than Swartwout, to receive custody of the six jewels. However, on September 6, Daniel Brent, acting secretary in Livingston's absence, wrote Huygens that AJ wanted them turned over to Swartwout, "the officer legally entitled to the custody of them, to be kept by him" until all the legal issues were resolved (DNA-RG 59, M38-4). Huygens wrote Brent on September 10 that he had entrusted the six jewels to Hamilton (DNA-RG 59, M56-1). On October 3 he solicited Livingston for AJ's intervention to restore the jewels. Livingston replied for AJ on October 5 that despite his "sincerest desire" to see them restored, he could not "take upon himself the power of deciding on a question of property pending in a Court of Justice" (DNA-RG 59, M38-4 & M56-1). The customs suit proceeded, with Hamilton claiming the jewels on behalf of the Princess of Orange. On November 5, Huygens protested to Livingston that the suit promised no quick or certain result even though Dutch ownership of the jewels was incontestable, and that the U.S. was relegating what was properly an affair between governments to the decision of self-interested local authorities (*SMisDoc* 127, 31st Cong., 1st sess., pp. 36–40, Serial 563). AJ's Cabinet considered the case on November 9 (below).

September

Memorandum on John Branch

[Following the public expositions of Ingham and Berrien on the dissolution of Jackson's Cabinet, John Branch wrote a letter on August 22 explaining his part in the affair. Addressed to editor Edmund B. Freeman of Halifax, N.C., Branch's letter was first published in Freeman's Roanoke Advocate *on August 25, and reprinted in the* Globe *on August 31 and* Niles' Weekly Register *on September 3. Branch said that despite his personal friendship for Eaton, he had candidly warned Jackson at the outset of his administration that Eaton's appointment to the Cabinet "would be unpopular and unfortunate." He had also beseeched Eaton himself not to supply "a handle" to "the enemies of the President" by accepting.]*

Govr. B. Letter. The formation of the Cabinet. The statement of the rumors, Mr. B. at that time, & on all others, disavowed any knowledge of any thing disreputable to Mrs. Eaton, or any belief of the rumors about her—professed the greatest friendship for Major Eaton, and bestowed upon him, the highest encommiums of praise for his moral worth without the least intimation of any evil consequences from his appointment as by him now stated. It was the confidence I had in Major Eaton and his recommendation of Branch & Berrien that induced me to appoint them in my Cabinet.

The trip to old point, its incidents,[1]

The confidential information of the vile Campble on my return—the conduct of Branch on that occasion in inviting him to his parties after the vilanous conduct he had attempted secretely against Eaton—with the use of the private letters, Mr. B. had recourse to, was the cause of quarrel that Eaton had with Branch[2] The information, first of a caucus of members to wait upon me to solicit Major Eatons removal. This abandoned and the information by members of Congress, of the combination with a Foreign Lady to degrade Eaton & drive him from the Cabinet. They parties given as predicted, communicated. They Gentlemen sent for—the ~~paper~~ address made from the paper on my knee read to each. Their pledge of honor that they would be the last men that would do any act to injure or degradge

Major Eaton, or his family, but they Ingham & Branch could not controle their families. To which I replied that I protested against any such attempt as to interfere with social intercorse of society—but having invited Major Eaton into my Cabinet, & he having come into it with reluctance, at my request, and in perfect harmony with all its members, and sincere friendship, as expressed by Mr Branch & Berrien any indignity offered to Major Eaton with the view of driving him from my Cabinet was an indignity offered to me, & would be so considered & treated accordingly, that harmony I would have in my Cabinet, & if any there were, not disposed to harmonise with Major Eaton, they had better withdraw. That before I would be compelled to seperate from him, I would suffer the Spanish inquisition to the last joint. I ~~often~~ more than once repeated this to Mr Branch never having had with Ingham & Berrien any conversation on the subject but once. They had heard Mr Campbell & Ely, say in my presence, that after a full investigation of all the rumors & charges, that they freely declared Major Eatons character was without a stain or blemish.[3]

Major Eaton never complained to me about the Cabinet, I never, from the time of his coming into the Cabinet, conversed with him about the vile slanders—and Mr Branch wilfully misrepresents in his statement as to Mr Van Buren as he has in several of his statements which I will notice ~~in my interrogations~~ hereafter—as to his acknowledgement about what was said about Col Johnston tale to them is true, when I told them the paper I had in my hand, & which I had made the statement from, I had read to Col Johnston; and that he, or no other person could say that I ever attempted to induce any one to associate with Mrs Eaton beyond their wishes.[4] I did say to Mr Branch how unjust it was for the female cossips here, to wait upon all strangers the moment they arived to tell them not to visit Mrs E. &c &c &c, but never in my life, asked any one to associate with her contrary to their wishes, or even to visit her but one, & that was Mary Eastin, assuring them that Major Eaton & his family had as good associates as their families, & neither courted or desired theirs, unless freely offered. Mr Branch well knows & so does Ingham & Berrien, that the cause of the difference between Major Eaton & him, was the countenance he gave to the vile Slanderers of the Revd. Mr Campbell, who had approached the President, and (Confidentially attempted to poison his ears, with the tale of the dead Doctor, which he now holds forth as a pious preacher, notwithstanding this apostate, after circulating the *vile tale* of *the dead Doctor*, acknowledged in the presence of Mr Branch &c &c &c that on a full investigation of the whole rumors & slanders, he was free to confess that Major Eatons moral character was without blemish.[5] Still this, pretended embassador of christ & his associates continued to circulate (secretely) the vilest slanders vs. Major Eaton & his Lady, & Mr Branch &c continued to countenance him & associate with him. This with the exposure of major E private letters (his private letters to Mr Timberlake, were used to prove that E. had received & converted T. mony to his use

& was used to endeavour to prove a connection with his wife) aroused the resentment of Major Eaton, & he was determined to make a serious matter of it with Mr Branch; fearing this, I endeavoured to become the peace maker, made known to Mr Branch, the dissatisfaction of Major Eaton as to his course &c &c[6] Mr Branch professed the greatest friendship for Major Eaton (as he did on all occasions) and shortly thereafter wrote me a note on this subject, which I enclosed to Major Eaton accompanied with my great desire for peace & harmony in my Cabinet &c &c. I understood both from Mr Berrien & Major Barry that they were present, and was much gratified at the result, and at which meeting, when it was observed by Mr Branch how great his friendship was for ~~Mr Branch~~ Major Eaton, but he could not controle his family, Major Eaton replied, Sir I have no wish that social intercourse should exist between our families, I never requested nor does Mrs. Eaton desire it.[7] As far as I know or ever heard there was no wish on the part of Major Eaton or his family to associate with any that had not an equal desire to associate with his, and Mr Branch gave as a reason for his family not visitting Major Eatons, ~~was~~ that at the Presidents, where Mrs. Branch was he Major E. did not speak to her[8]—it is not true as Mr Branch has alledged in his letter, that at the formation of my Cabinet that he told me that the appointment of Major Eaton ~~would give to~~ my enemies would make a handle of it. The fact is the whole letter is ~~either false; and~~ a tissue of falshoods, or glossed over with false colourings. Mr Branch was recommended by Major E. he knew full well (as they all did) that Major Eaton came in by my solicitation and I told them at all times that I would not seperate from him, nor the Spanish inquisition could not coerce me, that harmony I would have & those who could not harmonise had better retire. Now Mr Branch says, he told me at the interview, that he would retire before he would be coerced to any thing, and when I notified him of my determination to reorganize my Cabinet, he complains that he was dimissed, that he would not resign when I requested him but held on until I drove him out & dismissed him—*strange mananimity*, & inconsistancy—& displays falshood in every paragraph.[9]

AD, DLC (37; 18-0636).

1. In July 1829 the Donelsons, Eatons, and Branch with two of his daughters had accompanied AJ on a steamboat excursion to Old Point Comfort in Virginia, on which Emily Donelson had pointedly spurned Margaret Eaton's friendly attentions.

2. Margaret Eaton's principal accuser in 1829 had been Presbyterian minister John Nicholson Campbell (1798–1864), whose church in Washington AJ and Branch both then attended. Campbell presented AJ with his evidence of Margaret's promiscuity on September 1, 1829, and appeared before AJ's Cabinet on September 10 (*Jackson Papers*, 7:403–15, 423–24). Branch's letter related that Campbell, "a learned, pious, and most eloquent divine," had later attended, by invitation of Branch's daughters, a party at his house. Branch said Eaton was "enraged" at this and complained to AJ.

3. Ezra Stiles Ely had attended the September 10, 1829, Cabinet meeting, at which Ely, though not Campbell, recanted his accusations against Margaret Eaton.

4. Branch's letter reiterated that Richard M. Johnson had presented himself on January 27, 1830, as AJ's emissary, authorized to require familial association with Mrs. Eaton from the three secretaries as a condition of their remaining in the Cabinet. Branch said AJ withdrew the demand at their January 29 interview, at which "*no paper was presented to me, or read to me, or alluded to* . . . . On this head I cannot be mistaken." Branch said that Eaton "was the only dissatisfied member of the Cabinet—the only who carried complaints to the President of the conduct of others," and that Van Buren, who had become AJ's "almost sole confidant and adviser" largely by his "devoted and assiduous attention to Mrs. Eaton," had counseled clearing the Cabinet because Ingham, Berrien, and Branch "disdained to become tools to subserve his ambitious aspirings, and he determined to leave them as little power to defeat his machinations as possible."

5. Campbell's central charge against Margaret Eaton, based on the purported word of her late physician Elijah Richardson Craven (1796–1823), was that in or around 1821, while married to John B. Timberlake, she had suffered a miscarriage at a period when her husband's absence at sea precluded his being the father.

6. Timberlake had died an apparent defaulter to the government. In October 1829 an anonymous note charged that Timberlake's financial records, then held by the Navy Department, would prove he had defrauded the government by funneling public funds to Eaton, who invested them in Washington real estate. Those records on inspection were found to include private business letters from Eaton. Learning this, Eaton demanded their return, but Branch refused. Opposition presses published rumors in December 1829 that the letters were incriminating and that Reverend Campbell had obtained copies. On January 5, 1830, Eaton published in the *United States' Telegraph* a card denouncing "the anonymous imputations of the retailers of ribaldry and scandal." On May 25, 1830, fourth auditor Amos Kendall submitted a report on Timberlake's accounts which included excerpts from the letters and an explanation from Eaton of his transactions with Timberlake. Kendall exonerated both men from any wrongdoing, and suggested that the anonymous note and the placement of Eaton's letters in Timberlake's official papers were part of a conspiracy to smear Eaton. Branch forwarded Kendall's report to the House of Representatives on May 27, 1830 (*HRDoc* 116, 21st Cong., 1st sess., Serial 198).

7. On January 26, 1830, AJ had written Branch proposing a "friendly interview" between him and Eaton to reconcile them and eliminate "misunderstanding." Branch answered on January 27 that he would "most cheerfully accept your friendly mediation" and agreed to meet Eaton. He and Eaton met on January 28, in presence of Berrien and Barry (*Jackson Papers*, 8:51–54). Branch's public letter did not mention the Timberlake business, instead identifying his friendliness to Campbell as Eaton's grievance against him and the prompt for AJ's peacemaking overture.

8. Branch's wife was Elizabeth Foort Branch (1787–1851).

9. Branch's letter said he had told AJ at their January 29, 1830, interview "that I could never acknowledge the right of any one to interfere in matters affecting the private and social arrangements of my family; and that, before I would be dictated to, or controlled, in such matters, *I would abandon his Cabinet, and was ready to do so whenever he desired it*."

From William Carroll

[This letter is available only in typescript.]

Nashville, September 1st, 1831.

Dear General,

Your friends have succeeded well in Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana, and certainly the result in Kentucky completely prostrated the claims of Mr.

Clay.[1] He will now be given up, and it is doubtful who the Baltimore convention will select. Certainly not Mr. Calhoun, his recent developements on nulification prostrated him completely. Judge McLane is surely not so short sighted as to permit his name to be used, and Mr. Webster must know that at present he has little or no strength out of New England. Upon the whole I see no reason to change the opinion which I formed six months ago, that when the election came on you would have no opposition.

In relation to the Vice-Presidency, we will be prepared to follow, not to lead. If old Pennsylvania selects a man we will give him our support.

Most sincerely, Your friend

Wm. Carroll

Typed copy, DLC (73).

1. In August congressional elections, Jacksonian candidates had won the single seats of Illinois and Missouri, all of Indiana's three, and eight of twelve in Kentucky.

From James Alexander Hamilton

New York Sepr. 1 1831

My dear Sir

I returned to this city last night from the Northern & Western parts of this State whither I went on business of the U.S.

I am extremely gratified to inform you that Public opinion throughout all classes of people and I took pains to ascertain what it was on board Steam & Canal Boats & Stages, in Taverns & in the houses of the farmers is well settled against Nullification and Mr Calhoun indeed I have not heard *a single* Voice raised in its favour or in excuse ~~for~~ of him all agree that "the union must be preserved" and that any man, whatever may be his talents, station, or character who would endanger it is unworthy of Public favor Never was a man more deservedly or more completely prostrated than he is His doctrines are not only abhored but his motives are considered unworthy I confess that I feel great satisfaction in stating this to you. The base attack he made upon me has created feelings on my part of deep personal hostility When he charged me with "a plot" he well knew that the charge was unfounded but it was considered important to sacrifice a Political rival & he was indifferent as to his means.

The Clay men & anti masonics are irreconcilable and yet they ~~unite in the intention to~~ will unite in the attempt at the next Legislature to change the Electoral Law from a General to district system in the hope that they may each obtain a portion of the votes. To make this attempt is settled; but I assure you it will be without success—Our court of Errors is now in session at albany (It is composed of the Senate Judges & Chancellor) and I took pains to ascertain the views of its members on that subject There is an unchangeable majority in that body adverse to ~~that~~ such a measure.

The other ~~hous~~ branch of the Legislature (the assembly) with one fourth of the Senate are to be chosen at the fall Elections There is no doubt that there will be a Majority of that branch also against such a Project but of that I cannot of course speak with the same certainty that I can of the Senate where there is a majority regardless of the next election against the measure.[1]

I went up the river on board the Steam Boat in Company with Berrian who looked most misserably He was neglected and seemed self-abased Such are the effects of conscience That miserable combination has sunken at last below contempt

I congratulate you my dear friend with all my heart upon the result of the negotiation with France. I have a private letter which says that if Casimir Perier is defeated there is much question whether the arrangement will be ratified by the Chambers.[2] This I do not believe[.] with the truest attachment I am your friend

James A Hamilton

ALS, DLC (40). AJ replied on September 3 (below).

1. In the last presidential election in 1828, New York had chosen electors by districts, resulting in 20 electoral votes for AJ and 16 for Adams. In 1829 the legislature adopted the general ticket, or winner-take-all, system employed by then in most states.

2. Casimir Pierre Périer (1777–1832) had since March 13 headed the French government as President of the Council of Ministers. He survived a test vote in the Chamber of Deputies on August 16 and remained in office until his death on May 16, 1832.

From Lewis Cass

Sir,

In order to carry into effect the stipulations of the treaty concluded at Washington May 6th. 1828, with the Cherokees living west of the Mississippi for the removal of such of the Cherokees living east of that river, as may be anxious to exchange their present residence for a permanent one, and that by this exchange their immediate condition may be improved, and the means of future prosperity afforded them, the Secretary of War has the honor to submit to the President of the United States the following *projet*.

1. A Superintendent to be appointed, with a Salary, at the rate of 2000$ per annum, while employed, who shall have the general direction of all the measures, relating to the enrollment of the Indians, to their subsistence, to the mode of transportation, to the route, and generally to all the objects connected with their emigration. It will of course be necessary, that a man of high character, in whom perfect confidence can be placed, should be selected for this delicate trust.

2. That two discreet men be appointed as appraisers to estimate the value of the property, which may be abandoned, including under this

designation, 'til better information is received, only the fair improvements upon land, to be allowed at the rate of 1,000$ per annum each, while actually engaged in the business.

3. The appraisers not to act, 'til called upon by the Superintendent, in order that the business may be done in as little time as possible.

4. An officer of the Subsistence Department to be ordered to the Cherokee country to make the necessary purchases and issues of provisions, under the orders of the Superintendent. The disbursements on account of subsistence and transportation to be made by such officer.

5. Agreeably to the stipulations of the treaty a rifle, a blanket, a kettle and five pounds of tobacco to be given to each head of a family, on enrolling, and one blanket to each member of the family.[1]

6. These articles to be purchased under the orders of the Department and forwarded to proper depots in the nation, or purchased by the Agent, as may be found most expedient on enquiry. All disbursements of funds for these objects, in that quarter, and all issues of those articles, to be made by the Agent, upon requisitions drawn by the Superintendent.

7. In the same manner will all other necessary payments be made by the Agent, except those appertaining to subsistence and transportation.

8. Directions will hereafter be given, when the payments for improvements shall be made, as a previous report from the Superintendent is deemed necessary. It is to be apprehended from the improvident character of the Indians, that if they receive this money, before the commencement of their journey, it will all be wasted, before they reach their destination. And as they will be provided for by the Government, it scarcely appears proper to expose them to this hazard. However this point must be yielded, if they make it an indispensable prerequisite.

9. There will be inserted at the head of the emigration roll a formal relinquishment of all the land claimed by each person in the Cherokee nation, and a special relinquishment, signed and witnessed descriptive of the property, will also be taken in each case.

10. No certificates, payable to order or bearer to be given. The practice would only lead to gross impositions upon the Indians. It would be better merely to enter the valuation in the duplicate lists of the appraisers, 'til the payments are ready to be made. But if this mode should create dissatisfaction among the Indians, certificates may be issued expressly payable to the owner of the property, and to no other person, except his legal heirs in the event of his death. But no certificate under any circumstances to be issued, 'til the valuation has been approved by the War Department.

11. Should the appraisers differ in opinion, the Superintendent to be called in to decide.

12. As far as possible inducements to be held out to the Indians to provide for themselves upon the route, and to receive a fair consideration therefor, in proportion to the estimated expense, which the same object

would cost the United States, as has been done in the removal of the Choctaws.

13. But with respect to the preceding article, and also with respect to the bonus of 50$ offered by the treaty to each one, who shall conduct four persons from the chartered limits of Georgia to the country west of the Mississippi, great caution should be used, for if proper persons are not selected to take these charges, great sufferings must be encountered upon the journey, and many will doubtless perish. Advances equal to the estimated expense must be made, but in the exercise of the soundest discretion.

14. The first step proposed, before other expenses are hazarded, is to appoint a Superintendent and to call upon him for a detail report upon the subject, in order to judge, whether the numbers, now prepared to emigrate are such, as to justify the measures, herein recommended.

The statements made by different persons to the Governor of Georgia, and by him forwarded to the President and to this Department, certainly hold out the prospect of a considerable emigration immediately taking place from the chartered limits of Georgia. To that district the efforts herein contemplated should be confined, for the very strong reasons, assigned by the President, namely, as out of these limits the United States hold the ultimate fee of the country, if a portion of the Indians leave their possessions, these would not, under any practice heretofore adopted revert to the general Government, but would belong to that portion of the tribe remaining. And thus in fact, the whole benefit would be theirs, and the difficulties of a purchase greatly increased.

15. Subordinate officers must eventually be appointed, and many other details provided for with which it is not deemed necessary to trouble the President. Should the general measures be approved by him, the ordinary authority of this Department will be found sufficient for these objects.

Lewis Cass.

September 2nd. 1831.
approved

Andrew Jackson.

LC, DNA-RG 75 (M21-7). Copy, DNA-RG 75; Copy, DNA-RG 46 (18-0651). *HRDoc* 171, 22d Cong., 1st sess., pp. 69–71 (Serial 219); *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 332–33 (Serial 245). AJ probably verbally approved this undated removal project before signing it on September 2. Cass sent it and instructions pursuant to it to emigration superintendent Benjamin F. Currey the day before, September 1, saying it "has been approved by the President" (*SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 328–31, Serial 245).

1. The May 6, 1828, Treaty of Washington between the U.S. and the Western Cherokees offered these items, and also the $50 conductor's bonus mentioned further on, as inducements to Georgia Cherokees to agree to remove west (*Indian Treaties*, 2:288–91).

To James Alexander Hamilton

(Private)

Septbr. 3rd. 1831

My Dr Sir,

your kind letter of the 1rst. instant is this moment recd. for which I sincerely thank you. Truth is mighty, and being of the essence of divinity, must always prevail. Therefore the fate of the judass. Ingham, Branch, & Berrien, I believed, would be a consignement to the utter contempt of all honorable men. This has happened to them.

I have no fear of the ratification of the treaty by the chambers of France, I have the pledge of the King personally convayed, and our friend Genl Lafayette who is now in the opposition will use all his influence to have the appropriation made for its fulfilment, on his union, on this subject, with the King, I rest my oppinion. I have this moment received the despatches accompanying the Treaty, and my Cabinet is about ~~to me~~ to convene for the purpose of bestowing upon it a reading, therefore, must close this hasty scrall, with a tender to your amiable family of my kind salutations, & my best wishes for your health & happiness—hoping soon to see you in Washington I am respectfully your friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, NN (18-0661). Hamilton *Reminiscences*, p. 227.

To Edward Livingston

Washington, Septr. 3rd. 1831.

My Dear Sir,

Mr. Draper—Messenger from France—has this moment arrived and delivered to me the despatches from Mr. Rives, accompanied with the Treaty. Our affairs with Spain may now, I think, perhaps be advantagiously braught before the Court at Madrid thro' our Minister. If we cannot obtain redress for our Citizens by negotiation, the Government will abandon them rather than direct reprisals. I therefore regard it best to make another effort to the adjustment of our claims, and, for that purpose, wish you to return to the City as soon as your convenience will permit. Present my kind salutations to Mrs. Livingston and Daughter and believe me to be, Very Respectfully, Yr Friend.

Andrew Jackson

LS in George Breathitt's hand, NjP-Livingston Papers (mAJs). Merchant Simeon Draper (1806–1866) had arrived at New York on the *Formosa* on August 30. Cornelius Peter Van Ness (1782–1852) was the U.S. minister to Spain. AJ noted his plans for Van Ness's instructions in his memorandum book on September 8 (below).

To Daniel Brent

Septbr. 5th. 1831—

The President with respects to the acting Secretary of State, encloses, for his perusal, a letter from the Honble. James Blair So.C. that the change recommended by him, in the papers for publishing the laws, may be made, at a proper time, and a reply made to his letter. The President requests the letter enclosed to be returned to him.

AN, DNA-RG 59 (M179-71). James Blair (1786–1834) was a South Carolina congressman. The State Department notified him on December 28 that the *Camden Journal* had been designated to publish the laws in South Carolina, joining the Charleston *Southern Patriot* and the Greenville *Mountaineer* (DNA-RG 59, M40-22).

To Martin Van Buren

(Private)

Washington, Septbr. 5th. 1831

My Dr Sir

Your letters of the 14th & 15th. ulto. was duly received, the last by your son the Major. I should have wrote you by the last Packet in answer to them, but the press of business & hearing that Major Eaton was preparing a reply to the ex secretaries, & atto. Genl. I had a wish to send it to you, but in this I am disappointed, as it will not be out before the sailing of the Packett of the 8th. by which, this will be forwarded—when *out*, *it will be forwarded*.[1] Major Eatons friends, advised him to forbear making a reply, but the continued virrulence of his persecutors, has forced him to come before the Public—and I have no doubt myself, but it will have a good effect upon the nation, and place you on the elevated ground you aught to occupy before the nation, as it will bring before the people in bold relief the injustice of the attacks against you, the agents concerned; & the base & unworthy motive by which they have been actuated; and if possible, sink lower in public estimation, they three judases, and their file leader, Calhoun, than ever fell to the lott of four men, in so short a time. They are held now in the most utter contempt, by all honorable men, who are not warped in their opinions by prejudice, or partiality.

They elections have terminated *well in the west*; eight members of Congress have been elected, against Clay, in K.y. & three in Indiana. The west is lost to him, but whether his friends will drop him or not, is doubtfull. The opposition are confused & they know not what to do, or what tack to make. Mr Calhouns nullification expose, has destroyed his prospects forever, in reaching the Presidential chair, & *Justice McLain*, is fearful that permitting his name to be used *now*, might, ~~forever~~ destroy his

prospects for the future. Mr Adams is spoken of, but a concentration of the scattered forces cannot be united on any one, and the late elections prove, if brought into Congress, none of them, have any hopes of succeeding. The fruitful mind of the great intriguer Calhoun, with his aid, Duff, is upon the rack to find out some plan to destroy me, and athwart the vews of the people, with regard to you—but "he is now understood," and *harmless*. The *maline* influence, from which they had great hopes, have entirely failed, & they have fell into the Pitt they had dug for me, & others.

On the 3rd. instant the messenger, Mr Draper, handed us the Treaty with France. It is as it should be, with regard to our reciprocal claims. They are put to rest finally, including Bowmarchays;

The reduction of the Tariff, in reducing the duties for ten years on her wines, I apprehend, will be seized upon by the opposition to assail us for a violation of the constitution, by an encroachment upon the legislative ~~power~~, under the treaty making power. Our defence; the necessity of the case. Mr Rives having agreed to this on his own responsibility from the necessity ~~of agreeing to the~~ he found himself under to get clear of the claim under the 8th. article of the Louisiana Treaty, or abandon the negotiation, and our claims; finding this to be the state of the negotiation from his despatches; to get clear of this perpetual claim of France under the 8th article of the Louisia Treaty, and to obtain indemnity for our merchants, as the whole had to pass before congress before it was binding upon the nation, we approved the project. This I believe is the fair state of the case; before congress meets I will thank you for your views fully on this subject. The two opposition presses in Newyork has committed themselves on this point; both have approved the treaty, & it may be, that the treaty will pass without much opposition on this point.[2]

The Gossips of this place are down cast, & chopfallen—they papers are lashing the three *maline Gentlemen*, or dismiss'd secretaries, very severely. Poor Branch, before they are done with him, will be ready to call upon the mountains to fall & cover him. The Richmond enquiry, you will see, uses him very roughly[3] you will recollect no doubt, when they members of Congress, made known to me the existence of the conspiracy to degradge Major Eaton, & drive him from my Cabinet, & that Mrs. Huygins was one of the combination, I felt great dissatisfaction, but on friendly explanations taking place, which proved satisfactory, all my good feelings were restored to the family, at no time had I any cause of dissatisfaction with Mr Huygan. This you, I believe, know, & if necessary, you can thus speak.

Major Donelson & his family have just arrived since I began this letter, with Miss Mary Eastin, & Miss McLamore, and I hope, with all those feelings which ought ~~to~~ at first to have accompanied them hither—they know my *course*, *& my wishes*, & I hope, they come to comply with them.

I have been much interrupted since I commenced this letter & I trust you will excuse many errors that you will find in it. Mr Earle, Major

Lewis, and my son join me ~~with~~ in presenting you with our kind salutations, and best wishes, for your health & happiness

Nothwithstanding the high opinion I entertain of the talents & worth of my present Cabinet, & the confidence I have in them—still, there appears a vacuum occasioned by your absence, & our faithfull Eaton, that is not filled. Mr McLanes mind is a host to me—& with him, and Barry, in whom I know I can, under any circumstances, confide—with the goodness, & amiability, & high talents of the others, I have no doubt we will steer the national vessel into a safe port. Still I cannot but regret your absence; we have been so fortunate with our foreign relations hitherto, that I would regret any feu paugh should occur here after. I cannot close without again repeating, that I hope circumstances will occur to enable me to retire to the Hermitage in due season, & set an example, worthy to be followed, and give an evidence to my Country, that I never had any other ambition but of that of serving my country, when she required it, and when I knew it could be better served by others, to open the door for their employment—*you will understand me*.

This moment the ladies have entered, & miss Mary Eastin & Mrs Donelson, with the Major, has desired to make a tender to you of their kind salutations.

Should you see Mr Vaughn, please to present my kind wishes for his health & happiness. Present me to your son, & Mr Vail, and believe me sincerely your friend

Andrew Jackson

P.S. let me hear from you often. A. J.

Should Mr J. Randolph be in London present me kindly to him & my best wishes for his returning health.[4]

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (18-0670). Van Buren replied on October 11 (below).

1. Eaton's *Candid Appeal to the American Public* was published on September 15.

2. Rives had first proposed trading a reduction in American import duties on French wines for France's dropping its indemnity claim for alleged American violation of the Louisiana Purchase Treaty on his own initiative. He wrote Van Buren on May 20, 1830, that he had not "ventured upon this step without a full sense of my personal responsibility in taking it without the sanction of instructions. The expediency of the measure, however, appears to me so obvious, and its necessity was so urgent, that I flatter myself I have incurred but little hazard of the President's disapprobation in adopting it." Van Buren replied giving AJ's approval on November 8, 1830 (*HRDoc* 147, 22d Cong., 2d sess., pp. 104, 41, Serial 235). On August 23, the opposition *New-York American* and *Journal of Commerce* had both run pieces hailing the treaty.

3. Revelation 6:16. A writer in the *Richmond Enquirer* on September 2 called Branch "weak," "stupid," "impudent," "contemptible" and "a dupe."

4. John Randolph had sailed for home from Portsmouth on September 1. He wrote AJ on October 13 (below).

To Charles Webb

*[On August 1, citizens of South Carolina's Colleton District met at Walterboro to respond to Jackson's June 14 letter declining the Charleston Union Party's invitation to its Fourth of July celebration (above). Chaired by lawyer Charles Webb, the meeting adopted a preamble and resolutions charging that Jackson's letter seemed to threaten "military force" against any attempt by South Carolina at "arresting the operation of the Tariff Laws within her limits." The meeting resolved that "we deem the threat of coercion towards the State it contains, a gross assertion of tyrannical power; an outrage upon the liberties of the States;—and, if attempted to be enforced, utterly incompatible with the existence of the Union." The meeting instructed Webb to send its proceedings to Jackson and "respectfully request him, in behalf of the citizens of Colleton District, to inform them, whether they have truly interpreted his language; and if not, in what particular they have erred" (*Charleston Mercury, *August 4). Printed here are Nicholas Trist's draft of Jackson's reply and the reply itself.]*

Washington, Sep. 2. 1831.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22d ulto. (postmarked 26th) enclosing, agreeably to one of the resolutions of the meeting, a copy of the "Proceedings of the citizens of Colleton District, at Walterborough, on Monday, Aug. 1. 1831." The sorrow inspired by such a perversion of lofty and generous spirit, as one thinking as I do, ~~cannot but see in those proceedings, were~~ would be best expressed by silence; and had the course to be pursued by me, been left to my own feelings, I should have abstained from all reply, trusting to time to allay the high excitement they evince. But the nature of one of the resolutions is such as to put it out of my power to pursue this course, without appearing to be wanting in a proper respect for a portion of my fellow-citizens; and to impose on me, therefore, the necessity of approaching the irritating subject.

In a letter recently addressed to another portion of my fellow-citizens of South Carolina, under a deep sense of what was due to the occasion, I spoke as follows: "But every enlightened citizen should also see, that high and sacred duties, which must and will at all hazards be performed, present an insurmountable barrier to the success of any plan of disorganization, by whatever patriotic name it may be decorated, or whatever high feelings may be arrayed for its support." These words are quoted by the Meeting, and I am called upon to explain my meaning, in its bearing upon ~~the~~ certain views entertained by them, on the rights of the States.

The duties adverted to by me, are those which, on ~~assuming~~ entering on the office of President of the United States, I have, in the presence of my Country and my God, solemnly sworn to perform. The subject with

reference to which the Meeting ask to know my views of those duties, is, ~~so far as~~ if I understand it, the right ~~that is~~ asserted to exist in each member of the Union, to determine upon the validity of the laws of Congress, so far as they are to operate within its limits; and consequently, to determine what laws the President may execute within the same ~~limits~~.

The assertion of this right, the Meeting call "The Republican doctrine"; and they refer in support of it, to the celebrated declaration of the Kentucky Legislature, wherein it is solemnly affirmed, that the Federal Government was created by a Compact between the States; and that with regard to this compact, "as in all other cases of compact, among parties having no common judge, each party has an *equal* right to judge for itself, as well of infractions, as of the mode and measure of redress."[1] Between the right here asserted, and that apparently contended for by the Meeting, I have never been able to perceive the slightest connexion. The one is, the ultimate right which necessarily accompanies all compacts—whatever be the subject or the nature of their stipulations—between parties having no common superior; who may, in the last resort, each insist upon its own construction of the agreement, and act in conformity therewith. The other right is one that clearly depends on the nature of the agreement entered into; that may or may not exist, according to the terms of the agreement; and which, if it do exist in the parties to ~~this~~ our Union, must be founded on something in the compact by which they are united, by which the Government is created, and its action defined.

Viewing the subject in this light, the Constitution must be my guide; and finding therein, nothing to countenance the assertion, but every thing to contradict it, the doctrine is one to which my reason ~~will~~ does not assent, and to which my conduct cannot conform. Regarding the President as an agent, created by compact between twenty-four Sovereignties, and charged with the execution of laws enacted for the whole Union, I find it utterly impossible to reconcile with his character, the right claimed for each State, to define for herself the field of his duties. This utter impossibility could not be more strongly exemplified, than by the very law, with immediate reference to which the claim has been set up. According to the doctrine contended for, it might become the duty of the President to allow goods to enter impost free in Charleston, and to exact the impost at Savannah & Norfolk: a course which, if possible, would come in direct conflict with more than one express provision of the Constitution; and which, if constitutional, would ~~be~~ prove impossible, by driving all commerce to the favored port.[2] In a word, I deem it the plain, incontrovertible design of the Constitution, that the duties of the President be performed throughout the whole field assigned to him, until that field shall be changed by the authority provided by the compact, or shall, by a dissolution of the compact, have ceased to exist.

The authority to which I have reference will be readily understood to be, that of three-fourths of the States, the only ultimate controlling

authority recognized by the compact.[3] By this authority only, so long as the Union subsists, can the action of the federal agents be controlled or regulated, or the field of that action be, in any instance, ~~enlarged or circumscribed~~ narrowed. If a State, deeming a particular law to be unconstitutional, desire that its execution be arrested, the question is properly ~~a question~~ one between that State and the other States whose cooperation is necessary, to affix to the law the character of unconstitutionality. If that cooperation be given, an authority speaks to which the President owes obedience: if it be withheld, no such authority has spoken. To ~~the~~ see ~~the subject in its~~ his duties in their true light, it must be borne in mind, that his ~~natural state is a state~~ station is one of action: that he was created ~~for action~~ for the performance of certain duties, guided by his own views of the Constitution, and under the control of three fourths of the States. It was ~~not~~ intended that his functions should never be interrupted, in any portion of the field assigned to him, save by the power to which the compact subjected him. If they be interrupted, by any other power, the laws of his creation are violated; and consistently with his duty, he cannot suffer them to be so interrupted, except by a force which he cannot overcome.

Should a State, appealing to the ultimate equal right of every party to the compact, finally adjudge a law of Congress to be invalid, and determine to oppose its execution,—the question arising from such an event is one altogether beyond the cognizance of the President, or of any of the authorities created by the compact. To view him as a party thereto, is to lose sight of the essentials of his nature. The question is a question between the States: to which they alone can possibly be parties, they alone being parties to the compact. Its nature corresponds with that of the compact itself, which, ~~as set forth~~ to ~~use~~ adopt the language of the memorable Resolutions already referred to, is a compact to which "each State acceeded as a State, and is an integral Party—its co-states forming, as to itself, the other Party."[4] During the pendency of such a question, it may be thought by some, to be the duty of the President to desist from executing the law within the State by which its unconstitutionality is affirmed. The view which the Constitution constrains me to take of his duty is directly the reverse of this. Independently of the difficulties of acting upon such a principle, difficulties which have already been adverted to, and which would in many cases prove insurmountable; there are difficulties of principle, equally stubborn in their nature. To consider a State as no longer constituting part of his constitutional field of action, would be to decide that she no longer belongs to the Union,—in effect, to annul the compact as to her. This, the President has no manner of authority to do; and the only alternative is, to continue, as if no question had arisen, to fulfil the purposes of his creation; to ~~consider his~~ continue to look to the Constitution, to consider his duties & his field of action to be what it defines them to be; and within that field, to persevere in the performance of those duties.

The correctness of this view of the subject is confirmed, by a supposition which, without in the least affecting ~~the principles involved in the~~

~~question~~ any point of principle, divests it of a feature of some difficulty. Had the Constitution been precisely what it is, and the laws with the execution of which the President is charged been of such a nature, that their operation being equally important with that of the Tariff to the interests of the States, their execution was confined to a territory distinct from that of any State, the principles involved in the question would be precisely what they are now. The duty of the President to execute those laws, the rights of the States in relation to the discharge of that duty, would be the same exactly; and yet it is very plain that, consistently with his duty, he could not, at the mandate of any State, desist from their execution.

Having thus, Sir, replied explicitly, to the question propounded by the Meeting; I will, in the spirit that dictated some of the expressions in their preamble, add, that, of the calamities to which the imperfection of our nature exposes us, one of the heaviest to my bosom is the alienation of friends, caused by ~~firm adherence to the dictates of duty~~ conflicting views of duty.[5] Next to the approval of my own conscience, the approbation of honest men is dear to my heart. But its loss is an evil which must, sometimes, be encountered; and the apprehension of which never has made, and never shall make me shrink from my duty.

[Endorsed by AJ:] 1. Whether an answer ought to be given—2nd. if given, whether the within is a proper outline This witheld—& one substituted in lieu thereof—This to be preserved A. J.

Draft in Nicholas P. Trist's hand, DLC (40).

1. From Article 1 of the Kentucky Resolutions of 1798.

2. Article 1 of the constitution declares that "all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States" and that "No Preference shall be given by any Regulation of Commerce or Revenue to the Ports of one State over those of another."

3. Article 5 of the constitution provides for amendment with approval of three-fourths of the states.

4. From Article 1 of the Kentucky Resolutions of 1798.

5. The Walterboro preamble referred to AJ as "one, whom in truth we once delighted to honor" and who had "received our most ardent, unwavering, and enthusiastic support."

Washington, Sepr. 5th. 1831.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 22nd ultimo, enclosing, agreeably to one of the resolutions of the Meeting, a copy of the "Proceedings of the Citizens of Colleton District at Walterborough, on the 1st. August 1831"; stating the construction which they say they are compelled to give to my letter of the 14th June last, to a Committee of my Fellow Citizens of Charleston; and requesting me to inform them whether they have truly interpreted my language.

I am not satisfied that the language referred to is justly liable to misapprehension: and I do not feel myself authorized to enter into a correspondence for the purpose of explaining or discussing, in reference

merely to a supposed emergency, the means which the President may be required to employ in the discharge of his constitutional duty of taking care that the laws be faithfully executed.

I am therefore constrained, with all proper respect for my Fellow Citizens who composed the Meeting, to decline the explanations required by their resolution.

I am Sir, with sentiments of respect, Yr. Obt Servt

Copy in Nicholas P. Trist's hand, DLC (40). Copy, ScCleU (mAJs). *Charleston Mercury*, September 21, 1831; *Niles*, October 8.

From Caleb Starr

Athens, Ten. Sept 5. 1831.

Sir:

The removal of the Cherokees is a subject which has given, and continues to give you a great deal of trouble, and perhaps, no less Solicitude. I have been, heretofore, of some service in effecting the cessions and removals that have taken place, & I still continue to be disposed to lend my aid to the views of the government. Besides having the will to help you, I flatter myself that my extensive acquaintance and connexions in the nation, will conspire to give my efforts some efficiency. With a view of being able to speak to the Cherokees with confidence as to the country where their friends reside beyond the Missippi, and to remove their prejudices on that score, if it could be done consistently with truth, I travelled to that country last fall, and examined it with my own eyes. So far from being the wretched place it is industriously represented to be, in this part of the nation, to me, I must confess, it appeared the most desirable country I ever saw. Of one thing, at least, I am certain, that a country abounding in game of every description is infinitely better suited, to quite one half of the Cherokees on this side of the river, than that where they now reside, oppressed more than half the year by actual starvation.

I assure you that there are not less than 5000, or one half of the whole population of this part of the nation, who depend upon the chase for a living, and will not for many years, if ever, cultivate the earth. These it will be no difficult task to persuade to remove if the U.S. will but afford them the means of removing. Nothing will be so effectual to this purpose, as the emigration system steadily persevered in. You are not, however, to be surprised, or induced to abandon it, if its effects, for the few first months, do not correspond to your expectations. For the present crops are exceedingly abundant, and while plenty lasts, with characteristic love of inaction, they will remain where they are. But so soon as their supplies begin to fail, which will be late in the spring, they will enrol in multitudes depend upon it. A glorious harvest has been missed by neglecting to afford

them the means of escaping from the dearth and starvation of the past summer.

I am informed that the emigration system is again resolved upon, and if you believe my services will be of sufficient importance to warrant it, give me the valuing of their improvements, and they shall be faithfully employed to advance the designs of the government. I can do so with the better conscience, for I not only recommend my children to emigrate, but if they go, I intend to follow them, old as I am, if I can dispose of my property in this country. Very respectfully Yr. obdt. Servt.

Caleb Starr

[Endorsed by AJ:] refered to the Dept. of war—A. J.

ALS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-113). Starr (1758–1843), born in Pennsylvania, had married a Cherokee woman, Nancy Harlan. One of their sons, James Starr (1796–1845), signed the 1835 removal treaty of New Echota, under which Caleb and Nancy emigrated.

From Simon Wilmer

(Baltimore) Sept. 5th. 1831

Dear Sir,

Having but a slight acquaintance with you, it is still hoped that it will not be considered improper for me to interrupt you for a few moments—

I am not a Politician of any party, and cannot but be grieved at the violence manifested in many of our papers. Looking over them occasionally, my astonishment is great, and my feelings are excited, that any should censure you, for the generous stand you have taken in defence of Mrs. Eaton. With that Lady, I have not the pleasure of being acquainted, but if, from party purposes, she has, (as we have reason to believe) been slandered and grossly insulted, she should be sustained by the community, at least by all who value character. Your determination not to abandon her, to be sacrificed, in order to gratify those who presume to say, "stand by, I am holier than thou," ought, more than your conquests in war, to call for the admiration and gratitude of the virtuous part of the nation, as it will of the civilized, and impartial *world*. Time will add to the verdure of such laurels.

Knowing that the most exemplary, (and particularly in conspicuous stations) are the most exposed to the arrows of calumny; and that the most vicious, are the most suspicious, I am the more astonished that any professing Christian, and especially any one calling himself a Christian Minister, should so far forget the immutable, and characteristic law of Divine love, as to injure by evil speaking, or writing, an unoffending Lady, occupying a very respectable, and responsible station.

Sir—I must beg you to accept the thanks of an individual, (an humble advocate of the Prince of Peace,) for the course you have pursued in relation to this business and I feel it to be my duty thus frankly to express my sentiments, more especially, as a very different opinion had been entertained of you formerly—

That you may be spared many years, a blessing to our beloved Country;—and that in the enjoyment of temporal and spiritual mercies, you may, through a precious Redeemer, have the anticipation, and final enjoyment, of that "rest remaining for the people of God" is the prayer of your Friend in the Gospel[1]

Simon Wilmer

P.S. I write from this place, but reside near Salisbury, in Somerset County. Having been unwell since I last called upon you with Bishop Stone &c. a change of climate has been recommended for a few weeks so that I may, with God's blessing, again be enabled to resume my Ministerial duties—[2]

Should you deem it exedient to let the Editor of any paper have this, be pleased to expunge the name and P.S. The name of an obscure person could not give it any weight—S.W.

[Endorsed by AJ:] an excellent creed, founded on charty the basis of all true religion, A J.

ALS, NjP (18-0678). Wilmer (1779–1840) was the Episcopal rector of Spring Hill Parish in Somerset Co., Md.

1. Hebrews 4:9.

2. Wilmer had accompanied Episcopal Bishop of Maryland William Murray Stone (1779–1838) on a pastoral tour in April and May that included the District of Columbia.

To John Coffee

Private

Washington Septbr. 6th. 1831

Dear Genl

I have not written you for some time, nor have I heard from you since your letter of the 9th. of July last.

Major Donelson with his little family, with Mary Eastin & Mary McLamore reached here yesterday, all in good health, and I sincerely regretted, not to see, your amiable daughter, Mary, ~~not~~ with them. Will you be on this fall & bring her. If I live, I mean to visit my Hermitage, next summer, by the way of South Carolina, and take Florence in my rout home. This reflection is pleasing, but may not be reallised.

Hutchings is with me, and leaves here to day for the university in v.a. where I hope he will remain and be studious; and altho he has spent much idle time, I hope he may gain such an education as will enable him to pass

thro' life with respectability—he says he is now determined to become a learned man—he has genius if he will apply it. I have furnished him with one hundred & fifty dollars in cash, & shirts, to enable him to enter college & pay his way for the first session. I found he had not the amount necessary; he says he had to pay some debts in Nashville that reduced the funds you gave him below his wants, he is now supplied with cloathing and funds for a year, except the second session, when he enters it, for tuition, I will send you his receipt, and when you have a moments leisure, if you will examine my account as Guardian, & should it be closed, without this hundred & fifty dollars, ~~if~~ you will please to remit it to me, when it is convenient for you to do so, unless you have forwarded to him before this reaches you. I wish to keep myself clear of debt with that estate, and if I am not, let this pass to my credit. If I am, then, it will be a convenience for me *now*, to have the $150 remitted to me.

I have had an unpleasant time with my late Cabinet, or rather the three judases, that composed it in part, Ingham Branch and Berrien, attempted to make it, not only unpleasant, but injurious to me. I did not suspect these men for such baseness. They came into my Cabinet by the recommendations of Eaton, & in the greatest harmony & friendship with ~~Eaton~~ him. ?Now mark the perfidy. Berrien says he came into it, from assurances from his friends, that Eaton would be soon forced out of it—and Branch has the unblushing affrontery to say, that he told me the appointment of Major Eaton would give my enemies, an opportunity to assail me.[1] There never was a more unblushing falshood than this. If Mr Branch had ever intimated such a thing to me, I would at once have told him, as Major Eaton was necessary to me, I would from his fears dispence, with Mr Branches services in my Cabnet, as I could not dispence with Eatons. It now clearly appears, that there were a conspiracy, from the first, against Eaton, & all others that would not unite in bringing Calhoun into the ~~Cabinet~~ presidency; and all who would not, was to be driven from me! They are prostrated, & their idol with them, and it is well for the country that it is so. The scriptures are fulfilled, they have fell into the Pitt they had dug for me! Eaton was, only the means they intended to use, to destroy me. This I knew from the first. I send you herewith the reply of Eaton to the three judases—it gives you a full view of the whole conspiracy, against me through Eaton—and the attempt wickedly & falsly to injure Mr. Van Buren, altho as innocent as a babe and they knew it, or had at least, no evidence to the contrary. I enclose you also the letter of Mr John Rhea (this is sent for your information, not to be permitted to go into the papers. When necessary I will make a full expose—but not until then.), on the subject of his answer to my confidential letter to Mr Monroe on the 6th. of January 1818, with judge Overtons statement. When you read Mr. Calhouns appeal to the public, and my confidential letter therein published by him, without any authority from me—Mr Calhouns contruction of my orders on the Seminole Campaign to Govr. Bibb, "that I was authorised to conduct the war as I

thought best," and then his own confession, that he did move my arrest, or punishment, in the secrete Cabinet council; you can judge whether more duplicity & I might add, depravity, than Mr. C. has evinced ~~with~~ in this transaction ever was committed by man and particularly professing to me, & all my friends, the full approbation of my acts, and the sincerest friendship. From the conduct of Ingham Branch and Berrien, they were fit tools for such a man, & apt scholars under him. They have all met their reward, the full contempt & disapprobation of all honest men. you are at Liberty to ~~shew~~ explain all this to my friend Capt Savage, who, like myself, was once a great admirer of Calhoun[2]—present me kindly to Mrs. Coffee, & all your amiable family and believe me your friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, THi (18-0682). AJ enclosed copies of Rhea's June 3 letter to Monroe and Overton's June 2 letter to AJ, both above. He wrote Coffee again on September 7 (below).

1. In his July 22 address to the public, Berrien related that he had first regarded the composition of AJ's Cabinet as an "insuperable bar" to his entering it, as he "foresaw clearly the evils" to come. But he consented on assurances from a "gentleman high in the confidence of the President" that AJ "would himself speedily see, and correct the evil," presumably by replacing Eaton (*US Telegraph*, July 23, 1831).

2. Samuel Savage (d. 1837) lived near Coffee in Lauderdale Co., Ala.

From John Henry Eaton

Private

6 Sept 1831

Dear Sir

Most luckily I have found a letter of Mr Branch to you dated 29. Jany, 1830: the very day on which he says he called to you about Col Johnstons message, & two days after Mr Ingham says Johnston called upon him He says *in reply to your letter of yesterday 28, he excepts with pleasure your mediation, to be reconciled with Maj Eaton for [whom he] entertains the best feelings [. . .] that day at [. . .]*

This letter you enclosed to me with the hope, that we might be reconciled. Now how is it that Mr. Branch could write so kindly, to a man, who had offered him "indignity & outrage" & only two days after the offering of the indignity[1]

I have used this paper there being nothing of privacy about it. If you object to my doing so, I will omit it.

Besides the friendly feelings which he *[. . .]* himself *[. . .]*

This letter I thing puts his veracity one side[.] Yours

J H Eaton

[Endorsed by AJ:] Major Eatons note 1831, on the subject of Govr. B. letter to me, quotes it—to be preserved

ALS (torn), DLC (75). The letter Eaton found was Branch's to AJ of January 27, 1830, accepting AJ's proposal the day before of a reconciliation meeting between Branch and Eaton (*Jackson Papers*, 8:51–54). That evening occurred the contentious meeting of Branch, Ingham, and Berrien with Richard M. Johnson. Eaton here misdated Branch's letter (which AJ had passed on to him) at January 29, placing it after the Johnson meeting and before Branch's subsequent explanatory interview with AJ. Eaton printed the misdated letter in his September 15 *Candid Appeal*, invoking its conciliatory tone to prove that both Branch's indignation at AJ after the Johnson meeting and his friendship for Eaton were feigned and hypocritical. Branch, in rebuttal, printed AJ's letter and his reply in the Raleigh *Star* on October 6, correctly dating them at January 26 and 27, 1830, before the Johnson meeting.

1. Berrien had termed Johnson's apparent message of presidential social dictation an "indignity" and "outrage" in his July 22 address to the public (*US Telegraph*, July 23, 1831).

From Martin Van Buren

at Sea Septr 6th. 1831

My dear Sir

We are within three days of our port of destination (Portsmouth) as we hope, & have hitherto had a delightful voyage. Neither John nor myself have been sea sick or other wise unwell. Mr Vail has suffered some but is now well again or nearly so. Sensible of the bustle & confusion which will doubtless attend the first few days after our arrival, I embrace the present time, to communicate my ideas upon some subjects of interest, which will call for your intention in the discharge of your official duties. As they are intended for your own eye only, I shall be careless of the manner in which they are stated, & be most happy, if now, or at other time, I shall be so fortunate as to suggest any thing that may facilitate the performance of the irksome & serious task which the public favour has imposed upon you. The most important question of the next session will be that of the arbitration. To it the opposition doubtless look with eagerness, as the source of embarrassment, & the means of annoyance to your administration The manner therefore as well as the ~~matter~~ substance of any measure adopted in regard to it becomes important. The ~~leading~~ first object, of course, will be to secure the greatest advantage to the Country, and the next, to do that, in the way best calculated to paralize the efforts, & defeat the machinations of those, with whom, the acquisition of power is the first & the public good only a seccondary object. From the fact, that my instructions were submitted to a Cabinet council I infer, that, all your Cabinet concur in the opinion, expressed in them as your own, that under all circumstances, it is expedient on the part of the U. States to abide the award; but that for the reasons stated, you will best discharge your duty, (if it be not an obligatory one,) by submitting the question to the Senate for their advice. The questions which arise from this view of the subject, are, 1st. shall the submission be accompanied with an expression of your own opinion, & if so, 2dly in what form shall your reasons be assigned & what shall they consist of & 3dy. shall remuneration or indemnity to

the loosing states be recommended. It is quite possible that there may be a diversity of opinion among your constitutional advisers upon these points, & you cannot therefore bestow upon ~~it~~ them too much attention, as well on that account as in respect to their intrinsic importance. In favour of a naked submission it may be said—that such is the usual practice in cases of treaties—that a departure from it on this occasion might be construed into a wish, unduly, to influence the deliberations of the Senate, & that it would moreover be assuming a responsibility which you may as well avoid. There is certainly much weight in these suggestions, but my mind nevertheless strongly inclines the other way. This is not the ordinary case of a treaty—so far from it, that it is by no means clear, that however expedient & fit it may be to submit the question to the Senate, & the more especially as you cannot carry the award into effect without the concurrence of the Senate, in the appointment of the commissioner, & of Congress by an appropriation it is also absolutely your duty to do so. The opposite position may with plausibility be urged, inasmuch as the Treaty for the submission does not, in terms or by necessary implication, make such a submission necessary, but provides for the execution of the award, without appeal. It may therefore be contended with much force, that the award, when made under the Treaty, becomes the law of the land, which it is the duty of the ~~Executive~~ President to execute, or to disregard if he considers it a nullity; but that of that he must judge upon his own responsibility; the other branch of the Executive Department, (the Senate,) having done every thing in the matter which was contemplated or required by the compact with Great Britain. So far therefore from being regarded, as wishing to dictate, by giving your own opinion in advance, there is, I think, more reason to apprehend, that, a naked submission will be exposed, at home & abroad, to the imputation, of throwing the matter upon the Senate, for the purpose of getting rid of a responsibility, properly belonging to the Executive. Such a suggestion would be effectually met, by a candid expose of your own opinion in advance; and there would be no difficulty in giving a satisfactory explanation of your motive, ~~in~~ for departing in this respect, from the course ordinarily pursued in cases of treaties. This course too, will be more in keeping with your general course through life, a circumstance of no small importance to a man in your situation, & in whose character the Country has so deep an interest. As to the assumption of unnecessary & avoidable responsibility, it may be said—that the administration will have to take one side or other of the question before it is decided—its friends will have a right to ask that of it, & it ~~is~~ will even upon the principle of calculation, (if that were admissible in such a case) be better, & wiser, to, enter into ~~voluntar~~ the controversy voluntarily & manfully, than to be drawn into it by circumstances. In the latter case too you will be deprived of the advantage—a very great one—of vindicating your opinion in your own way with out dependance upon such reasons as may be given for you by Senators—some of whom will be really friendly, but may be indiscreet;

whilst others will be only ostensibly so & very willing, to give you a stab under the fifth rib, with the salutation of "art thou in health my brother."[1] and further, if the imputation agt. our good faith (in case the award is rejected by us), referred to in my instructions, should be countenanced abroad, its force will be in a good degree weakened, by the fact, that, a different course was recommended by the head of the Government, & that the motives for that which was adopted, are to be traced, to that spirit of opposition to which all Governments are exposed.[2]

If for these, or any other reasons you shall decide ~~upon~~ agt. a naked submission, the next question will be the form of communicating your opinion, viz, shall it be done in the annual message, or in a seperate and special one; & if the latter shall that be addressed to the Senate only, or to both branches. A full explanation of your motives and views will require more space than could allowed for that purpose in the annual message. I am therefore clearly of opinion that all that should be said upon the subject in that document, should be a declaration—that the matter will form the subject of a seperate communication, which will be made in a few days—although a short delay may be useful, in allowing an opportunity for the leading members of the opposition to disclose their views without knowledge of your intention, I would make it as short as possible; & at all events have the communication prepared before the meeting of Congress. Whether it should be addressed to the Senate, or to both bodies is a question of some difficulty: If the subject is treated as an ordinary one, where the advice of the Senate is taken as a branch of the Executive Department, the Message must of course be to the Senate only, & in the first instance confidential; & I do not see how this course can be well avoided. If it is pursued there will be difficulty in bringing before Congress, & the Country, in a proper & sufficiently imposing form, the recommendation of indemnity to the loosing states; if that course should be finally concluded on. I see no better way than to give in the Message, submitting the award to the Senate, the reasons why you think indemnity can & ought to be made, & to express your intention, in the same document, to call the attention of Congress to the subject by a special message, in the event of the awards' meeting the sanction of the Senate. If the members in the two houses from Maine Massachusetts & New Hampshire, should prefer to support the award if their states are indemnified agt the losses they incur, but wish to have the sense of Congress first taken upon that question, they will have no difficulty in finding a way to get at it. The next question is the substance of the message, or the reasons to be assigned for your recommendation to abide by the award. It would be superfluous if it were practicable, to go into a full discussion of that matter in a letter. It should be prepared with great care and circumspection, so as not to embarrass the future course of the Government, in the event of a decision by the Senate adverse to your wishes. If they so decide, it will become the duty of the Executive Department, in its correspondence with the

British Government, to justify & sustain the decision. Committals upon important points, may hereafter prove extremely inconvenient & embarrassing & must therefore be avoided. To do that, & at the same time state the reasons in favour of acquiescence, in such a manner, as, to secure for them a fair effect with Congress and the people, is no easy task; & still with attention it can be accomplished: Mr Livingston can do it, & will, I have no doubt, when stimulated, & aided by your ~~ad~~ encouragement & advice, effect every thing that is desired. The exposure of our national faith to imputation in the eyes of the world, by our refusal to stand by the award, is an important view of the subject, which cannot be left out, & still it must be urged in such form, as will not leave it in the power of Great Britain on a future occasion, & in the event of our resisting the award, to retort your present declaration upon us, as an admission that the course our Government is thus taking, is by our own concession, a positive breach of national faith. This may be done by stating explicitly our right to resist, but suggesting the liability ~~which~~ of our doing so to misrepresentation & to misunderstanding, and arguing that although the danger or fear of having our conduct misrepresented, or misunderstood, by others, would not of itself, furnish adequate ground to controul our course, still, that when added to other considerations, it forms a strong inducement, & particularly with a nation & government, like ours, whose character is as yet untainted—whose *[. . .]* consists in the maintenance of public virtue, & whose greatest desire & leading object ever has been, & ever should be, to preserve their national faith without a stain. With the great body of the people it will be sufficient that the case would present the question as to the preservation of the public faith, & they will not be disposed to weigh with accuracy the preponderance of the scales on the one side or the other. So too with respect to the invalidity of the award. We must not put it in the power of G. B., to say, in any event, that the Chief Magistrate of the Republic has on any occasion admitted that the award is obligatory upon us. This can be avoided, by stating explicitly the variance between the decision and the ~~award~~ submission, & the consequent invalidity of the award, according to the established principles of the Jurisprudence of all enlightened countries, and yet assigning reasons, to justify us in omitting to avail ourselves of our strict rights under existing circumstances—those reasons, may, amongst others, consist of the difference, which in the opinion of mankind would probably be made, between an award settling the rights of individuals, & one for the preservation of peace between contending states—in the one case the submission is made with the knowledge of both parties, that, an appeal for error will lie, whether it is stipulated for or not; whilst in the other, it is made with a knowledge that, no such appeal can be made unless it is provided for by the submission which has not been done on the present occasion. The fact that the reference was the only mode, save an appeal to the sword, by which a controversy, in regard to which the cup of conciliation & discus-

sion ~~by the parties had been~~ had in vain exhausted, could be settled; & that as no security was taken agt. Error in the umpire the argument, that, the parties intended to expose themselves to the hazard of such error, & are in good faith bound to abide by it, is sufficiently imposing, in a case not more extravagant & important than the present, & in the absence of any other mode to quiet ~~contr~~ the country, & avoid future contention, & possibly collision, to justify this Government, in a decision to waive a portion of their strict rights; & in abiding by the result, which, after every effort on their part to avoid it has taken place. This is I confess difficult & nice sailing, but there seems to me to be a necessity for it, & it may I think be successfully done. You cannot advise an acquiescence in the award for the mere sake of peace, & you must not make admissions which will tie up your hands in future exigencies.

Upon the question of recommending indemnity by granting to the loosing states portions of the public lands equal in value to those they are deprived of by the award, two things are to be considered, viz the right to make it & the justice & expediency of doing so. I have not on board the cessions of the States, nor the Treaties for the acquisition of Louisiana & the Floridas. But I assume, that, the cessions are so far as it relates to the right of soil for the general benefit of the States composing the confederacy. The provision of the constitution giving power to Congress to dispose of, & make all needful rules & regulations respecting the Territory belonging to the U. States, is sufficiently broad to cover the grant, if there is nothing in the object of the cession to supercede the power. Precedents enough could be found to justify the measure in the past acts of the Government, but that is a dangerous ground. It appears to me that the motives for the grant may be stated in a very forcible & imposing manner. The protection of the States in their rightful limits, was an undoubted duty on the part of the Federal Government. The mode it has adopted in this instance to discharge itself of that duty was adopted, not only without the assent but agt. the remonstrance of the State of Maine which has the chief interest in the matter. It was done to save the peace of the Country, & consequently for the general *[. . .]*tion & advantage of all the States. What therefore more consonant with the principles of natural justice than for the states not injuriously affected by the injustice of the decision, but gainers in the security which they derive by it from future contentions in which they would have to take part, to assent to an indemnity ~~out of~~ to the suffering states, out of a fund acquired by the common means of all, & set apart for the common good. Even if difficulties exist upon the question of strict justice, what more desirable than to dispose in part (& it will not require a large one) of a fund, which is now, and will for a long time, it is to be feared remain an apple of discord in the family, in a work of conciliation. This would furnish a topic, upon which, a brief & salutary reference to the value of the Union, the importance of exerting ~~any~~ all allowable means to preserve it, & promote harmony

and good feelings among the states, might be made. That the opposition would be greatly embarrassed by such a course cannot be doubted. The people of Maine are a shrewd intelligent & keen sighted race. They will see at a glance that they can never, in all probability, make more out of the matter, or get better out of the scrape into which they have been drawn by the acts of the late administration, than in the way proposed. The people of Massachusetts, who, although not interested in the question of sovereignty, are, equally so with Maine, in the question of property, will see in the proposed Measure a matter of clear gain—for if they could succeed in obtaining from Great Britain a release of the Territory in question, still they would value their share in the land much higher, if situated in one the other states or Territories, than where it is subject to the dominion of a neighboring, rival, & jealous state. Self interest would induce her to compel her representatives to support the course recommended, & their character, & position in the political field, would enable them to exercise a large influence upon the conduct of other portions of the opposition. Whether New Hampshire ought to be included in the indemnity or not would be question for Congress. The chance of becoming so, would not be without its influence upon her representation, as the award is certainly binding so far as her immediate interests are concerned. The quantity of land required would not be large—the territory which is cut off by the award does not exceed three million of acres—its value is not to exceed 25 cents pr acre—so that taking the public lands at the minimum value it would not require more than seven hundred & fifty thousand acres—less by 250,000 acres than were in 1824 given to the State of Ohio, for her two canals.[3] If the Senate notwithstanding reject the award the friends of the administration would have an undoubted advantage in the States affected, & your future intercourse with Foreign nations would be saved from prejudice by any thing growing out of this affair.

Cowes Septr 10th. We arrived here last Evening making our passage in 24 days—23 from light to light. In its whole course we have been favoured with fine weather & perfect health with the exception of a few days of sea sickness on the part of Mr Vail. Although we came a great part of the way at from nine to ten miles an hour our decks were not once wet from the sea & but seldom from rain. I intended to have extended these remarks contained in this long letter to one or two other subjects but must defer it until I am settled down. As the knowledge of my views would only afford inducement to the opposition to oppose them it may be best to confine them to your own bosom—but this is subject to your own wishes as nothing is farther from mine than to desire that you should take any course without being willing & indeed without regarding it as a privilege to share the responsibility. We leave here tomorrow for London by Post from which place I shall write you again. I can of course say nothing of the news of the day more than you will find the public papers—the peace of Europe will I think be still longer preserved however difficult that task

has been & will continue to be. There are many & contradictory accounts as to the probable course of the House of Lords upon the subject of the Reform Bill but I think it is quite clear that they will pass it. The Bill goes to them next week & we shall be in season to hear the discussions upon it. Remember me affectionately to Majors Lewis & Campbell & to my friend Earl—to Major & Mrs. Eaton if they are yet with you & to all friends & believe me to be Truly yours

M Van Buren

John & Mr Vail wish to be kindly remembered to you—

ALS, NjP-Livingston Papers (mAJs). AJ replied on November 14 (below). He reviewed the history of the boundary dispute in his annual message to Congress on December 6 (Richardson, 2:546–47) and submitted the arbitration award to the Senate in a special message on December 7 (below).

1. 2 Samuel 20:9–10.

2. In his August 1 instructions to Van Buren, Livingston had voiced concern that rejecting the arbitration award "would throw a shade of ill-faith over the reputation of our Government, the odium of which, possibly, might not be removed by the cogency of our legal argument to prove that we were not bound—and a reputation for good faith in a nation is of too much consequence to be risked, even in the prosecution of right, without the strongest considerations" (DNA-RG 59, M77-73).

3. In 1828 (not 1824), Congress granted Ohio 500,000 acres to aid construction of the Ohio Canal, plus five sections per mile along the line of the Miami Canal.

To John Coffee

Washington Septbr. 1831

My Dr Genl

I wrote you on yesterday, and advised you, that A. J. Hutchings was with me & he had not sufficient funds to enter school & furnish cloathing which he was in need of—that I had furnished him with one hundred & fifty dollars, his recpt for the same & accounts for the cloathing furnished I herwith enclose you, and if my accounts are closed with the estate, it will be a convenience for me to receive here; if my accounts are not closed, then, let the one hundred & fifty dollars be passed to my credit. Should you have a moments time, I would thank you for information on this subject.

I am anxious to hear from you whether you are likely to make with the choctaws, the necessary arrangements for the accomodations of the Chikisaws, within the boundery of the choctaws west of the Mississippi. This is a subject of great importance to us, and if made, will induce the Creeks & Cherokees to remove—let me hear from you on this subject, and the real prospects of their accomodation.

I have just recd. the treaty with France—it puts an end to all reclamations on both sides, and pays in 6 anual instalments, to our citizens, five

million four hundred thousand dollars, principle and interest—a sufficient sum to meet all the just claims against France by our merchants. Thus in two years we have been able to obtain justice from all Foreign Governments, which had been the subject of negotiation for many years—with France twenty—still, I suppose we are to get no credit from the opposition for all this, and Mr Van Buren, who is entitled to participate in all our success with our foreign relations, is to be blasted if possible to make way for Mr Calhoun. This justice forbids, and the people are just when rightly informed.

I have detained this letter and the one of yesterday to forward with them Major Eatons response. I expected it would be published this morning but I find it has not.

With my respects to Mrs. Coffee & your amiable family, I am respectfully your friend

Andrew Jackson

P.S. It would be a great gratification to me to hear how your son Andrew progresses with his education.[1] I would be happy he would write to me—tell him to become a good writer he must commence early & practice his mind to it. Writing is macanical, & to become a good writer & with facility, the mind must be habituated to it from youth—practice makes perfect. A. J

ALS, THi (18-0693). Postmarked September 21.

1. Coffee's son was Andrew Jackson Coffee (1819–1891). He wrote AJ on November 6 (below).

From John Boyle

Navy Department
8. Septr. 1831

Sir

I have the honor to state that, on the receipt of your remarks, endorsed on the letter of Commr. Elliott, in relation to young Simon Frazer Blount, who gallantly distinguished himself in quelling the recent insurrection of the slaves in South-Hampton Va., an appointment as Midshipman in the Navy of the United States, was prepared and transmitted to him yesterday, with an appropriate letter addressed to his Father Dr. Blount of Jerusalem. I am Respy.

J Boyle
Actg. Secty.

LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Captain Jesse Duncan Elliott (1782–1845) commanded the West Indian squadron. He had supplied men from his command at Norfolk to aid in suppressing Nat Turner's revolt. Early on August 23, Turner and the remnants of his force had

attacked the home of Doctor Samuel Blunt (1765–1833). They were repulsed, and several were killed or captured. Blunt's son, Simon Fraser Blunt (c1816–1854), took part in the fight. Elliott later told AJ of young Blunt's heroism. On September 7, Boyle at AJ's direction sent Samuel Blunt a midshipman's appointment for his son (DNA-RG 45, M209-7). Simon Blunt sailed in November with Elliott on the sloop *Fairfield*.

From John Wilson

Portsmouth 8th September 1831

Dear Sir,

About a year ago a number of small farmers flocked here to work in the yard or dock. they lost a great deal of time in trying to get in; some had sold off their little alls in the country & even their farms, but many of them had to go away disappointed understanding that negroes could do the work better & more of it; & were more controlable; but I believe it has lately been discovered that the reverse was the case. The Blacks are certainly less honest to the whites than the whites to each other, ~~but~~ and are not entitled to such intimate knowledge with the arrangements & resources of the public establishments; they certainly could effect infinite mischief in a scheme of insurrection which might be more generally concerted than it appears has been & in the alarm here from the insurrection in the country, the whites who were grudgingly employed & those who were rejected are worn down with fatigue in protecting the public property against the identical Blacks who are employed in preference to them. The rejected whites too have been made to believe that Genl Jackson was to blame for this, he being now the President; their complaints were naturally freely communicated & it is easy to imagine it was that very circumstance which turned the late elections here.

Three hundred negroes are said to be in the dock or yard mostly brought from the Country around; they are so inordinate in their solicitations or so impudent, that no gratuity has appeared to satisfy their cupidity; they have been a most intolerable annoyance in town ganging & hanging together, almost rendering the law of unlawfully assembling a nullity. A popular error has been some how gotten up that it would benefit the town to employ mostly negroes, but I am confident if they were discharged this town would be more thrifty than it is; 70 or 80 houses would require to be immediately built—it would be materially increased in its effective population & be a much greater *convenience* to government in every respect; it would be a greater means of public safety.

Col: Baldwin I understand has been petitioned by the whites in the dock & as I was requested to draw a petition which I addressed to the Secy of the Navy & furnished, I will only observe further that there are perhaps 50 or 60 free negroes in dock or yard employed with the slaves & it appears something should be done at once to get rid of this population throughout the country.

Senator King once made a proposition to effect the separation of Blacks & whites with the funds from the sales of the public lands after extinguishing the national debt & an application was recently made to Congress to aid the Colonization Society in the settlement of the free blacks but we have so many hair splitting politicians with hearts no bigger than pins heads who care less for the good of the people than for *gaining their argument* that I fear congress will not do anything effectual in the business.[1] We may have amongst us some of the wisest men but they must be lamentably few & ~~far between~~ I judge the trees by the fruit only let any man of common sense look at the condition of the state of Virga. (and compare it with the other States of the union) if it thrive more, it must be more from good luck than mangement There is no more concert or union in it than in a rotten borough in these days of general reform.

The other day Mr. _____ sported himself in ~~the usual~~ one of his chop logic disquisitions to disprove the very position which it is the interest of the state & of the U States that he should prove—to prove the incompetency of Congress to act on the application from the Col. Society for auxiliary funds. He said it was unconstitutional or not specifically constitutional to do anything. Now I have seen no proof of its being unconstitutional but rather that it is constitutional. All the wisdom on that side of the question is perfect foolishness. The power not delegated to the U States nor prohibited to the states respectively is reserved to the states or the people. This is admitted. Well, The congress are the representatives of the states & the people. Secondly there is no inhibition in the constitution to appropriate against the evils of slavery & congress have the power to provide for the welfare of the U States; if therefore slavery & the free negroes throughout the U States are the bane of that welfare—so determinated by the vote of their majority—*they* have then, the power *constitutionally*, to provide for the welfare of the U States by making the appropriations. Now Sir I think it is proved that an appropriation would be constitutional as much so as it can be proved unconstitutional; at the same time it can be proved to be neither the one nor the other. But what of that. If it was truly & expressly unconstitutional an extreme case might arise. The evils might be present to such an extent that it would be for the welfare of the U States to violate the constitution & the man or men who should assume the responsibility of doing so would be commended by the act to everlasting fame. The constitution is never to be violated whenever it is better than expediency but it would be treason not to violate the constitution whenever it is most expedient. The good of the people, the States or the U States must be always paramount to any constitution. Very respectfully

Jno. Wilson

[Endorsed by AJ:] Navy Dept. refered. A. J.

ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-129). Navy secretary Woodbury answered Wilson on September 22 that if proof of official misconduct was offered, an investigation would be ordered

(DNA-RG 45, M209-7). On September 23, Wilson sent the Navy Department a petition from a September 17 citizens' meeting at Portsmouth, again complaining of the employment of blacks (DNA-RG 45, M124-149). Woodbury replied on September 26 that "the subject shall be fully investigated, and such measures adopted by the Department, as the interests of the government and the equal rights of all our citizens, may be found to require" (DNA-RG 45, M209-7). Wilson wrote AJ again on October 10 (below).

1. In 1825, then-Senator Rufus King (1755–1827) of New York had proposed to dedicate the revenues from public land sales, once the national debt was paid, to the emancipation of slaves and their colonization outside the United States. The American Colonization Society had been founded in 1816 with the aim of settling free blacks and emancipated slaves in Africa. Petitions to aid the Society were presented to the House of Representatives on February 7 and 8, 1831, by Virginia congressman Thomas T. Bouldin (*Register of Debates*, 18th Cong., 2d sess., p. 623; 21st Cong., 2d sess., pp. 619, 626).

Memorandum Book

[These six entries appear in sequence in Jackson's memorandum book. The undated third and fourth entries were written before September 22 at latest, and the last two probably within a few days after that.]

Septbr. 8th. have an interview with P. G. on the subject of altering the contract of mail rout from Phild. to wilmington daily, it is now 2.½ days &c

The treaty with France being executed, & our claims adjusted for spoliations, during Bonaparts administration, an applications to Naples with prospect of success may now be made—a positive demand for justice under our rule to ask nothing but what is right, and permit nothing that is wrong—and instructions to our minister at Madrid, again to demand of Spain, whether she will adjust our claims for her spoliations on our comerce, by a mixed commission to investigate them, or as France has done a sum in gross as an indemnity. A prompt demand to be made by our minister for a final answer, that the result may be communicated to congress, that such energetic measures may be adopted, as it may deem fit and the injustice, on a refusal on the part of Spain, may require. This to be attended to so soon as Mr Livingston returns. Septbr. 8th. 1831—[1]

Mr Jeffries at Pensacola, had not sailed the last accounts. await his answer to the letter addressed to him at that place to reply to the charges made, before he left the United States, and refute them—~~or return~~ If not refuted, an order to return to be forwarded to him.[2]

The moment Mr Livingston returns the Neapolitan claims &c &c to be attended to, with those on Spain ?Shall instructions be given to Mr Rives to undertake—or shall a Charge de affair be sent, & if the latter, who; He ought to be a character known abroad, & familiar with those

claims. ?would not Mr. Ervin, late secretary of legation at London, be a fit character to send to Naples[3] ☞ attend to this ☜

General Parson's reasons for the opinion he gave the President that a Delegation from the Creeks could not be got to come to Washington, to make a Treaty.

No *portion* of the Nation *dare* make a Treaty: They would be certain of death at the hands of their people. The General thinks a Treaty may be made; but it must be *there* in full council, when the responsibility would rest on the Nation at large.[4]

A letter to be written to Colo. Crowell, Indian Agent for a statement of the manner in which the annuity was disposed of. *[In AJ's hand:]* attended to)[5]

N, DLC (64; 18-0701, 18-0704, 18-0715, 18-0716, 18-0644, 18-0927). The first four entries are in AJ's hand, the last two in Nicholas Trist's.

1. Noting AJ's "preference for an amicable adjustment to any violent measures, however just," Livingston instructed U.S. minister to Spain Cornelius P. Van Ness on October 17 "to make another effort to bring the Spanish Government to a sense of what is due to us," and to warn Spain that further refusal "must be considered as an unfriendly denial of justice, and must be so stated to the representatives of the nation" (*SDoc* 147, 23d Cong., 2d sess., pp. 13–17, Serial 269).

2. On September 5, William N. Jeffers, still in Pensacola, received Daniel Brent's August 15 letter requiring that he refute the Ohio charges of forgery against him. He wrote AJ and Brent the same day. To AJ, he avowed his innocence and charged his accusers with political motives. To Brent, he declared the forgery charge "totally false." In Ohio in 1810 he had taken, in collection of a debt, a note that was said to be forged. He had received no money on it, committed no wrong, inflicted no injury, left Ohio "openly and publicly," and from then until the present had "never heard one word upon the subject." Jeffers wrote AJ again on September 12, citing measures he was taking to disprove the charge and promising to resign if he could not (DNA-RG 59, M219-2). On September 22, his September 5 letter reached the State Department, and Livingston replied with AJ's instruction to return and confront the evidence from Ohio (DNA-RG 59, M77-9 & M40-22). Jeffers returned to Washington and resigned there as chargé d'affaires on November 19.

3. On October 24, AJ commissioned former Maryland congressman John Nelson (1794–1860) as chargé d'affaires to the Two Sicilies. Nelson concluded a claims convention in 1832. Washington Irving had been secretary of legation at London.

4. Enoch Parsons (1781–1841), of Claiborne, Ala., was a former Tennessee and Alabama state legislator. In 1832 he was appointed to carry the March 1832 Creek cession and removal treaty into effect.

5. AJ wrote Louis McLane about the annuities on October 5 (below).

From James Buchanan

Lancaster 10: September 1831

Dear General,

Having had the bilious fever severely for the three last Autumns—I was advised by my Physicians to go to the North this summer—as the best

means of preventing its recurrence. Accordingly I have been wandering about among the New Yorkers & the Yankees for several weeks past. I reached home but last night.

Whilst I was at Boston the anti-masonic letter of Mr. Adams made its appearance. ~~It~~ This folly although it caps the climax is in perfect character with the history of his conduct. It is a melancholy spectacle to see a man who has held the first office ~~in the world so anxious for notoriety as to be so fond of appearing in public that he is not only to have descended to become a member~~ acting as he has done. It is now seriously believed even by his former friends that he is courting the A. M. nomination. He & Rush are a par nobile fratrum.[1]

I was happy to find every where that the little ~~clouds~~ specks which ~~were raised~~ appeared in the political horizon about the time you changed your cabinet have been entirely dissipated. It could not have been otherwise. In the opinion of all your friends the present Cabinet is just such a one as it ought to be. In this state ~~the~~ your strength has ~~been such as to~~ alarmed those who evidently wished to abandon you & they are now the loudest in your support. ~~Still however they cling in their heads to Mr Calho Not bei~~ It not being in their power to affect you they are pushing another purpose with all their might. They are strenuously opposed to a national convention to nominate a Vice President—& through the inadvertence of our friends who are without suspicion it appears to be settled that the state convention which will meet to nominate a Governor on the 4th March next will also select a candidate for the Vice Presidency. This nomination ought to ~~have been~~ be made by a Jackson con on the 8th. January. ~~Governor Wolf will be re-nominated & re-elected~~ The consequence ~~is that~~ will be that the state administration—on account of its extensive patronage & the interest felt by all the state office holders in sending their particular friends to the convention—will probably be able to control the nomination. George M. Dallas is unquestionably the candidate of the state admin & of all those who ~~were~~ are the friends of Mr. Ingham & Calhoun. ~~Is he such a man as you would desire & they are all deadly hostile to myself~~. Now I have no wish to be a candidate for the Vice Presidency, on the contrary my nomination was got up without my consent & it is my intention to decline but I ~~wish~~ desire to do it at such a time & in such a manner as will be entirely agreeable to yourself.[2] I think that no man ought to hold that office but one of mature age who has ~~given pledge by a~~ obtaind the confidence of the American people by ~~his conduct in the Cabinet or in the field~~ distinguished public services. It ought to be the crowning glory—the last honor conferred upon any man—unless he should afterwards be elevated to the Presidency. In short he ought to be ~~the~~ next ~~man~~ in the confidence of the people to the President himself. I have not the vanity ~~to believe~~ for one moment to suppose myself to be such a character. I wish therefore to pursue that course whatever it may be which ~~would~~ will be best calculated to promote the election of a man

sincerely friendly to yourself & to your administration who would aid you in the Senate in promoting those great measures of your administration on which your own glory & the welfare of the Country so much depend. It is my intention to pay you a visit, the latter end of the present month or the beginning of the next & I should be glad to know when you would be most at leisure.

I am most pleased with the appointment of General Porter.[3] It is a good & popular appointment. ~~But The truth is that you may appoint any respectable man to any office in this state & it will be popular. If you are stronger in this state~~ Your strength is

I understand the name of John K. Kane is before you as a candidate ~~for to be appointed~~ for commissioner under the French Treaty. He is a respectable & intelligent man & His appointment would gratify the Leiper family who have ever been your steady & influential friends. ~~I presume~~ I believe Mr. Kane's standing at the Phil Bar is equal to that of any other gentleman of his age.[4]

AL draft, PHi (18-0713). John Bassett Moore, ed., *The Works of James Buchanan* (Philadelphia, 1908–1911), 2:177–79. AJ replied on September 14 (below).

1. "Par nobile fratrum" is a noble pair of brothers. Ex-president John Quincy Adams had won election from Massachusetts to the forthcoming Twenty-second Congress. Both he and Richard Rush (1780–1859) of Pennsylvania, Adams's former Treasury secretary and 1828 vice-presidential running mate, had recently published letters denouncing Masonry. Writing on August 22 to repel Masonic claims that his father had supported the Order, Adams charged Masons with "horrible and disgusting *penalties*, and *secrets*" and "a murder [of William Morgan] unsurpassed in human atrocity" (*Boston Courier*, September 1, 1831). On September 28 a national Anti-Masonic convention in Baltimore nominated William Wirt for president.

2. George Mifflin Dallas (1792–1864) of Philadelphia, appointed U.S. district attorney by AJ in 1829, was elected to the Senate in December by the Pennsylvania legislature. A state Jackson convention convened at Harrisburg on March 5, 1832, and nominated Pennsylvania governor George Wolf (1777–1840) for reelection, AJ for president, and, on the tenth ballot, Senator William Wilkins (1779–1865) over Dallas for vice president. Buchanan declined to stand but received 17 votes on early ballots.

3. George Bryan Porter was appointed governor of Michigan Territory in August.

4. John Kintzing Kane (1795–1858) was a Philadelphia attorney and brother-in-law of George G. Leiper. In July 1832 AJ appointed him a commissioner under the claims convention with France.

From John Coffee

Coxes Creek, near Florence
11th. Sept. 1831—

Dear Genl.

I have not written you for some time, and the reason is that I have had nothing to say of sufficent interest to draw your attention off from the complicated business which seems to surround you—for it seems that you have to perform the duties of your office, under the continued growlings,

lying, and publishing every slander which malice can invent. Yet what a proud spectacle for your friends, to see you marching gloriously on, triumphing at every obstacle thrown in your way, with a steady eye, and firm pace, towards the true interest of our country. I am bound to beleive that Providence has protected, and defended you, for otherwise it would seem that the united machinations put into operation against you would prevail for awhile to your prejudice. The late elections in the western states, but particularly in Kentuckey has setled the question of your next election beyond all manner of doubt, indeed it was not at all doubtfull before, but now all must yield.

No doubt you have seen the address of Mr. Roane of Virginia, to the people of Hanover and others adjoining Counties, where he shews them that the true cause of the great opposition to your reelection, is to be found in your opposition to recharting the U.S. bank, and of your veto message &c such sentiments as he has there expressed, will open the eyes of the people, and I shall not be surprised, if they cant find an opponant to run against you, for there are but few men, if any, who are prepared to disgrace themselves voluntarily, and knowingly.[1] You know my sentiments of the course Eaton should pursue, ultimately he should punish certain of them, when the public mind is more tranquil, and people can more correctly appreciate a mans feelings and his rights—but I do think at present he aught to leave the City as soon as possible, saying to those persons, that at a more suitable season he would call on them. Such a course would be worthy of the example he set, in withdrawing from the Cabinet and making the sacrafice he did, let him show the world that he has not exhausted his stock of patriotism, although he has shewn much of that virtue—he aught to retire to his own state Tennessee, who will delight to honor him, when a fit occasion occurs, and from whence also, he could be noticed by the Executive in offering him an appointment with more propriety and more honorable to him, than in any other situation—setled down there upon his own estate (and I believe he is quite independant, I am so informed by Doctr. Breathitt) he could either reject, or accept of any thing which might be offered, by his state, or the Genl. Govt.[2] I am so strong in my belief that such aught to be his course, that I could wish it urged by all his friends, I am aware of the delicacy of your situation, with your friendly feelings towards him that it may be a difficult matter for you to advise him to retire for awhile, but ~~as~~ from the confidence existing between you and him, ~~that~~, if you think so, you can with the greatest propriety say so to him, I am sure he will receive it kindly, and it would have much influence in determining him to adopt that course. Now is the proper time for him to act, if he acts at all in that way. The three ex, secretaries, are at this moment politically dead, to notice them now in any manner whatever, will be to raise them into notice, and give them one other chance to raise a bubble for the enemy to float upon. they aught to be let alone at this time by every person, as they are dead, let them get cold, and they will never

again give one kick. Major Eaton knows my views. I am sure he aught to leave Washington for awhile at least.

For the first time in my life, I have within the last two weeks seen Mrs. Coffee on a sick bed, her health had been as usual good with the exception of cold, untill the last day of August she was attacked with chills and fevers, more violent than I ever saw any one, our Physian, Doctr. Rucker, used the lancet, and calomel freely and the sixth day broke the fever, and now under the free use of quinine, she is recoving, free from disease, but very weak.[3] I never saw a more violent attack to recover, she has today set up on a chair half hour at the time several times, and I hope in a few days she will again be herself. The rest of our family are in good health. We have had the wetest season I ever saw in my life take it altogether—our Corn crops are good, no fodder saved from the rains that is worth anything—the Cotton is entirely too large and is yet growing, none of it yet opened, not one bowl have I seen in mine. When we have usually been picking out full days work before this time—some say that the under bowls are rotting, but I have not discovered it in mine—it still rains, we cant possibly make a crop under any circumstance, but if the frost comes early, we shall not make half, & perhaps not third of a crop—much depends on the continuation of the rains, and the time of frost comming, as to what crop we make.

I suppose you have learned that Andrew J Hutchings, is at Charlootesville Virginia for the purpose of entering the university there for one year at least, as he proposed to me, when he first applied to me for leave, and for money to go there I had doubts of the propriety of his going, but he seemed anxious to go, and I saw that he was restless here, and could not agree with Steel at the Hermitage, as he had committed some violence there, I concluded to let him go. I gave him $300. which I thought aught to carry him there and enter him in College, and keep him untill towards the close of the first session—but I have lately received a letter from him, informing me, that he had to pay debts in Tennessee before he started to amount of $95. that he set out from Nashville with $205—that he was at Charloteville but he had not money enough to pay the entering charges into College, he informed me that he would get into the College and commence studying, & continue untill I could send him more money. I shall enclose to him, by the same mail that carries this you, $200. as I think that is as much as he aught to have during his stay there, I shall remind him of the necessity of being more carefull of his money, and if you think it worth while to say any thing to him in that way you can do so, but I would suggest the propriety of your speaking to him in a mild and freindly language, as I think his temperament will not bear any thing of a rebuke, although of late, he has shewn to me, the greatest respect, and promises well, but don't perform as well—he always expresses the greatest veneration for you.[4] If you write him, dont tell him of my informing you that he was out of money, or that I was about to send him more, but

merely in general terms exhort him to economy I expect he will correspond with Andrew Jackson your son, from whom you occasionally hear from him, and how he is doing—his crop is like my own, bad prospect for Cotton, but fine corn.

I have no political information to give you The enemy growl, and occasionally show their teeth, but cant hurt—yesterday was appointed by them to hold an antitariff meeting in Florence to nominate a member to be sent to the general convention at Philadelphia, on account of the health of my wife I did not go to town, but I learned in the evening that no one from the country attended.[5] It will answer to keep up show abroad, as they can make it appear on paper to be very respectable—they cant hurt.

I expect before this Major A. J. Donelson, & the ladies are with you, I regretted not being able to send my daughter Mary with them, but the notice was so short, and my engagements at the time was such, that it was impossibe for me to get Mary there by the time they proposed starting I hope that some other opportunity may offer, that Mary may go on during the season, if so we will embrace it certainly.

We all unite in tendering to you, our love, and beg you to offer the same to all our relatives in your family. Dr. Genl. with the greatest esteem yr friend

Jno. Coffee

P.S. monday morning 12th. Mrs. Coffee still mends, she is up this morning and going about the house, at least in her chamber—she will be carefull not to fatigue or expose herself & I hope in a few days she will be entirely well. The weather has cleared away & is very cool, and looks likely to be clear, if it shall continue clear, and the frost does not appear untill late we may make good crops of Cotton yet. J. C.

ALS, DLC (40).

1. On August 24 the *Globe* had published part of a campaign circular by William Henry Roane (1787–1845) of Hanover County, Va., a former congressman just elected to the state House of Delegates. Roane proclaimed his support for AJ, censured the "domestic feuds and private quarrels" of the ex-Cabinet critics, and assured voters that AJ's "*veto* on the Maysville Road bill, and his determination not to sanction a law re-chartering the great *mammoth national* bank, &c. &c. are the true and real causes of all increased clamor you hear."

2. Physician Edward Breathitt (1790–1837) of Franklin, Tenn., was Eaton's brother-in-law.

3. Coffee's physician was Western Territory Rucker (1798–1831).

4. Hutchings had written Coffee asking for money on August 10. Coffee sent him $200 on September 12 (Coffee Papers, THi).

5. A week-long national Free Trade Convention opened at Philadelphia on September 30. A Florence, Ala., anti-tariff meeting to select convention delegates had been called first for September 3 and then for September 10, but was rescheduled both times for poor attendance. Meeting on September 14, it did not appoint delegates to Philadelphia, but instead sent a resolution opposing the protective tariff (*The Journal of the Free Trade Convention, Held in Philadelphia* [1831], p. 12).

To John Overton

Washington Septbr. 13th. 1831

My Dr friend

I have not heard from you since you seperated from your friend John Overton. I hope this will reach you, restored to your family, with ~~restored~~ improved health, enjoying all the comforts of Sweet Home.

I enclose you Major Eatons reply, I have not read it. When you write, give me your opinion of it.

With my respects to your amiable Lady & family believe me as usual your sincere friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, THi (18-0720).

To George Read et al.

Washington City, September 13, 1831.

Gentlemen—

Your note of the 6th inst. communicating to me, a part of the proceedings of the republican citizens of New Castle County at a late meeting has been received.

I cannot accept so generous a testimonial of the confidence of that portion of my fellow citizens in my character and public services, without an expression of my sincere thanks for it.

Next to the conviction, that the principles of action by which I am endeavoring to realize the wishes of the people in calling me to the highest office within their gift have been drawn from the most conscientious and pure sources, is most valued, assurances from respectable portions of my countrymen, that the practical effect of those principles may not only bear honorable testimony to my fidelity as their servant, but to the wisdom and virtue of the people at large, on whose vigilance and public spirit, rests the true corrective of that tendency to error and abuse which is common to all governments.

In the counsels and co-operation of the distinguished Gentleman who has been so justly complimented on this occasion, I feel an additional guarantee that the measures of the administration will be strengthened and the hope enlivened of realizing some portion of the favorable anticipations which you are pleased to indulge of its usefulness.

I pray you, gentlemen, to accept assurances of the great respect which I entertain for yourselves, as well as for the citizens in whose behalf you have acted. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ANDREW JACKSON.

Printed, Washington *Globe*, October 4, 1831 (18-0721). Read (1788–1836) had been U.S. district attorney for Delaware since 1816. A New Castle County "Jackson Republican" meeting at Wilmington on September 3 had appointed Read head of a ten-man committee to send the meeting's resolutions to AJ. The resolutions applauded AJ's administration and urged his reelection, praised his "long enduring patience" and "sound sense and energy" in the Cabinet crisis, welcomed the new Cabinet, and thanked AJ for including in it Louis McLane of Delaware (*Globe*, October 4, 1831).

To James Buchanan

Washington
Septbr. 14th. 1831—

My Dr. Sir.

I am happy to learn from your letter of the 10th. instant, which is now before me, that you have returned from your nothern tour: and that you have escaped thereby the autumnal fever which has for several years past affected you.

On Monday next I propose to visit the venerable Mr Carroll, but expect to be in my office again on Wednesday; so that at any time thereafter in the course of this month, I shall be in readiness, and happy to see & converse with you on the subject of your mission. very respectfully I have the honor to be yr mo. ob. servt.

Andrew Jackson

ALS, PHi-Dreer Collection (18-0755).

From Alfred Balch

Sans Soucé 14th Septr 1831

Dear General,

Calhouns "expose" has been recd here and extensively circulated & read. I speak the truth literally when I assure you that it is scouted by 49 out of every 50 of our voters. The Doctrines contained in this document are in my view abominable.

Clay will be a candidate for the Senate, if he is certain that he will be elected. He must change his position for his affairs are becoming desperate. At all events he desires to be on the great theatre with Ads Webster & Calhoun.

McClean is now here and is filled with aspirations after honors. He prays loud & long with his Methodist brethren. After he leaves us I shall call on old Father Gwinn to give in his experience. Some of the class leaders will of course aid in the schemes of a spiritual Brother.[1]

I have suggested to Carroll the propriety of recommending in his Message the adoption of the General ticket system in the election of our

Presidential electors. It is probable he will do so. For my own part I am deeply convinced that the adoption of this measure is of great importance not at all on your own acct but for *future* use. It *must* be carried.[2]

Grundy has begun already to press his re-election at the coming session of the Legislature. I shall not say one word on this subject until I see and converse with Judge Overton whose return is looked for continualy The truth is so far as Tennessee is concerned we have the play in our own hands and if we play out our cards with any skill those fellows will be loud. We have had some excitement at several meetings held in town about the Tariff &c. An acct of which you will see in our papers. I did not attend any but the 3d meeting & that only for an hour. I went to see who were really at the bottom of it and how it would end. Having satisfied myself on these two points I made off.[3]

I consider this meeting as the first effort before the people yet made, to divide our ~~people~~ voters into two great parties.

Some calculate on preparing the way for an opposition to Van Buren because he may pursue the course of general policy which you have marked out—and they count upon an auxiliary force from the disaffected in East Tennessee & elsewhere.

Ambitious men in West Tennessee will hope to be leaders and thereby acquire consequence and possibly office & honors.

If the plan is begun thus early so much the better and lest any serious discussion should take place on the question of the succession, I am most anxious that the mode of electing electors should be changed. N. Carolina Virginia & Kentucky all elect by General ticket.

It is to be hoped that Judge White will he here whilst the Legislature is in session. His position however precludes him from saying much on our political matters.

I recd a kind letter from Mr Livingston a few days ago, written with great beauty and containing some broad views of our public affairs. He is fully aware of the position now occupied by the admn. and that it will be beset this winter by a horde of desperate enemies, nevertheless he writes in good heart.

Poor Eaton must be any thing but happy. No fellow of the same good temper ever was beset by so much trouble. If his affair with Berrien terminates fatally for him, he will only share the lot of all the human family—if he survives he had better come home quickly, for his public position at the Metropolis is only calculated to invite re-iterated attacks.

I wish~~ed~~ he had come with me, as I was anxious he should do. Perhaps it would have been better.

Donelson & his family are with you. A man long accustomed to a family of females cannot do without them. He can not work always and they are at last the best comforters amidst the troubles & asperities of political employment & strife.

Present my respects to Major Donelson. very truly yours

Alfred Balch.

ALS, DLC (40).

1. AJ's friend and Tennessee neighbor James Gwin (1775–1841) was a Methodist minister.

2. Governor Carroll recommended adoption of the general ticket system in his opening message to the Tennessee legislature on September 19. No legislation ensued. Carroll repeated his recommendation at the next legislative session in September 1832, this time successfully (Robert H. White, ed., *Messages of the Governors of Tennessee*, vol. 2, *1821–1835* [Nashville, 1952], 344, 431).

3. A Nashville anti-tariff meeting was called for August 27 to select state delegates to the upcoming Free Trade Convention in Philadelphia. It appointed a resolutions committee and adjourned to September 3. At that meeting, the committee presented resolutions declaring a tariff for protection unconstitutional and proposing to name delegates for Philadelphia. Debate ensued and was continued to a third meeting on September 10. At that meeting the committee resolutions were rejected, and counter-resolutions were adopted that favored reducing the tariff, repudiated nullification as productive of disunion and civil war, and declared the sending of delegates to Philadelphia "inexpedient" (*Nashville Republican*, September 6 and 15, 1831).

From James Renwick Willson

Albany. 1831. Sep. 14th.

Sir,

The Indian board have had no information respecting the desires of the war department, since the passage of the Indian bill. There appears by the papers, to have been some misunderstanding, between the executive & Col. McKinney. We greatly regretted this, as it was through him, that we communicated with the government. We could not for a moment, suppose that our influence in promoting the passage of the bill was the ultimate object of the executive, in procuring the organization of the board.

Mr. Van Beuran, mentioned to me, on the afternoon of the day I had the honour of paying my respects to you, & the pleasure of your society, at evening-coffee, that, the Choctaws had acceeded to the proposal made them. I asked him, what he expected of our board; he replied that we must devise our own plans, for the education of the Indians. We expected to be asked formally by the Indian agent, for our views on this highly important topic. The displacing of Col. McKinney probably prevented this. General Eaton told us when on his tour through this state, that the affair should be attended to in due season. We presume that the violent, unprovoked, & wanton attacks made on him, & his excellent lady, by ungenerous political partizans, & the late events in the cabinet, have prevented him from attending to the business.

The board are still zealous for the intellectual & moral improvement of our Red Brethren. We still think that the project that you devised, is

the only reasonable one, to prevent their utter extinction. A schedule of education, which I had the honour to draught, is now in the possession of our board. At a meeting of the board, last spring was a year, on my return from Washington, it was resolved that we would never suffer any of the money appropriated to Indian improvement to pass through our hands. We are willing to exhibit our plans, if called for. If no more is required of us, let us know it, & our board shall be dissolved.

We shall be happy to see the whole business in abler & better hands. I am to write on behalf of the board to Governor Cass. I pray the Lord, for Christ's sake, to bless your person & house hold.

Jas. R. Willson

ALS copy, PPiRP (mAJs). AJ replied on October 4 (below). Willson (1780–1853) was a Reformed Presbyterian minister in Albany. Thomas Loraine McKenney (1785–1859) had been Indian superintendent in the War Department. Acting in official capacity, he had helped instigate the organization in New York in July 1829 of the "The Indian Board for the Emigration, Preservation, and Improvement of the Aborigines of America." Composed largely of Protestant clergy, the Board aimed "to afford to the emigrant Indians, all the necessary instruction in the arts of life, and in the duties of religion." It had supported non-compulsory removal west of the Mississippi as the Indians' only hope for survival and betterment (*Documents and Proceedings Relating to the Formation and Progress of a Board in the City of New York, for the Emigration, Preservation, and Improvement, of the Aborigines of America* [New York, 1829]). McKenney was dismissed from his government post in August 1830.

To Nicholas Philip Trist

Septbr. 15th. 1831—

The President with his respects to N. P. Trist & presents him with the enclosed check which he will please accept.

[Endorsed by Trist:] a check for $300. On my accepting his offer of the post of his private Secretary, he told me that I should not suffer in a pecuniary point of view—having reference to the highest salary attached to a clerkship, which it happened then to be at my option to take.

AN, DLC (18-0795). Excepting chief Departmental clerks, who made $2,000, the highest federal government clerk's salary allowed by law was $1,700. Trist's State Department salary had been $1,400 per year. On September 9 it was raised to $1,500.

To Andrew Jackson Jr.

[On September 15, John Eaton's Candid Appeal to the American Public: In Reply to Messrs. Ingham, Branch, and Berrien, on the Dissolution of

the Late Cabinet *was published in the* Globe *and as a pamphlet. In it, Eaton charged that Berrien, Branch, and Ingham had "been spies upon him [Jackson] from the beginning of his administration." Determined to drive Eaton from the Cabinet, they headed up "a cabal of the President's pretended 'friends,' with a view* to concentrate public opinion, *that I and my family should be proscribed from intercourse, with that portion of society over which they and their families had, or could have influence." But the "true motive" behind their persecution had nothing to do with Eaton's wife or his performance as Secretary of War, but his perceived unfriendliness to Calhoun's presidential ambitions. "It was this which rendered me unfit for the Cabinet, and for the respectable society of Messrs. Ingham, Branch, and Berrien. I could not, perhaps, be used to promote the views of Mr. Calhoun, and might exert an influence to induce General Jackson to stand a second election."]*

Washington Septbr. 16th. 1831—

My son

Having promised to write you, I set down to perform that promise, without having any thing either new, or interresting, except the reply of Major Eaton to the unjust wanton, & unprecedented attack upon him by Ingham, Branch, and Berrien, two copies of which were forwarded to you the other day. This appeal has been well received by all parties here. It is a plain and candid appeal to the justice of the country and must have the effect to prostrate, if they were not already, those men forever—it has unfolded their secrete and hypocritical course in bold relief to the nation.

I had a hope you would have seen Madam Segoin, & Miss Mary Ann Lewis, & have written to your cousin Andrew whether Miss Mary McLamore could be taken by Mrs. Sagoine. If you have not before, as soon as you receive this, if in Philadelphia, see Madam Sagoine, and write Major Donelson on the subject.[1]

I learn Miss Brown is in bad health I hope you have called & presented my respects to her & Mr James Brown her Uncle. Have you seen Miss Mary Ann Lewis and presented my kind regard to her—you know she is a great favorite of mine, and that she was also of your dear deceased mother; she is a sweet disposition, and I am sure will make a very fine and elegant woman—it is said here she is esteemed as one of the Belles of Newyork. I have no doubt but she would make a sweet and affectionate companion

Let me hear from you soon, I have recd a letter under cover for you from your brother Thomas, all well at home, except the Sir William that has been crippled. I shall retain the letter untill you return, which I hope will not be long, as there is nothing in it that requires your immediate answer. When you write tell me how is your health & how you spend your time, & when you will return. I am sorry to find that my private letters, which I thought was filled in alphebetical order, has not been done

so, and some that I wanted I have not been able to lay my hand on. This, when you return, will be remedied.

Major Lewis & Earle, your cousin Andrew & the ladies all join in kind salutations to you, & believe me to be your affection father

Andrew Jackson

ALS, DLC (40).

1. Mary Ann Lewis attended a Philadelphia school run by Anne Marie Aimée Condemine Sigoigne (c1770–1851).

To John Overton

Septbr. 16th. 1831—

My Dr friend

your letter from Knoxville of the 5th. instant is just received. I am happy to find that your health is still improving, may it continue to increase & may your latter days be your happiest, is my prayer.

I wrote & enclosed you Major Eatons appeal—you will receive it in a few days, & I am sure yll read it with pleasure. It is well received here, by, *all*, friends and foes.

I have to ask of you the favor, if your health & leisure will permit, that is, to visit the Hermitage, look amongst my papers in the office & send me all Col Gadsdens letters, wrote from this place in the year 1818 on the subject of the Seminole War. I want his letter written in august or Septbr. 1818 from this place giving the account of his interview with Mr Calhoun & his full approbation of my conduct in Florida—send all Gadsdens or Col A. P. Haynes letter from this place in 1818 to me on the subject of the Seminole war. and when at the Hermitage give me the health of my family, & stock, & the prospect of crop &c &c.

Major Donelson & his family have just arrived in good health, Major Eaton is still here, but will set out in a few days.

with my respects to your family, & best wishes to yourself, believe me your Friend

Andrew Jackson

P.S. you have not said one word about judge White. I have not heard of him since the death of his daughter. Will Tennessee, feel & act towards Eaton as she aught—let me hear—you know my friendship, and how I have, & still feel for him—A. J.

ALS, THi (18-0796).

From Samuel Black et al.

Wilmington NC Septr 16th 1831

Sir

The fact of a criminal combination among the Slaves of this place, and in some of the adjoining Counties, has been disclosed, and several executions have taken place. In this town and neighborhood much apprehension is entertained, least when the vigilance which the occassion has call'd for, shall have abated, conspiracies may be renewed and outrages attempted. To meet the anticipated danger, a timely preparation is necessary, and the undersigned respectfully represent to your Excellency, the necessity which exists of permanently stationing at this place, as soon as the same can be done, an adequate force. A regular organized force is called for as well to relieve the citizen from the harrassing duty to which he is now exposed, as it is absolutely indispensible, to secure to the Country confidence and repose. We look to the Head of the Federal Government, where the power is constitutionally lodged of providing for the public peace.

We are very Respectfully your Excellency's Obdt Serts.

Saml Black Chairman A Lillington W. G. Beatty Jo H Lamb William Usher Jr Daniel Sherwood	Magistrates composing County Court now in session
W. J. Harriss Mag. Police Thos F Davis James F McRee	Commissioners of the town of Wilmington

[Ninety-six additional signatures follow.]

[Endorsed by AJ:] refered to Dept of war A. J.

LS, DNA-RG 94 (M567-61). Samuel Black (1773–1851) and the five other lead signers were New Hanover County magistrates. In early September, about two weeks after the Nat Turner revolt in Virginia, slaves in Sampson and Duplin counties in southeastern North Carolina were charged with planning a massive insurrection aimed at seizing Wilmington, the seat of New Hanover County. Arrests were made, and on September 9 two accused ringleaders were executed in Duplin County. The next day, Wilmington slaves were implicated in the plot. A week of alarm ensued, during which rumors spread of armies of slaves descending on Wilmington, some residents fled for safety, and reports of the burning and destruction of the town appeared in the national press. More Wilmington slaves were examined by New Hanover County magistrates on September 17, and four were executed on September 20. On October 21, General Macomb wrote Black and the others that no troops were available for a regular station at Wilmington. Nor was there need of one, as quiet had been restored; and in the event of a black insurrection, the nearby garrison at Fort Johnston on the Cape Fear

River and the mobile force at Fortress Monroe, which had just been strengthened, could be quickly deployed to suppress it (DNA-RG 108, M857-1).

To John Boyle

Septr. 17th. 1831—

The President with his respects to the acting Secretary of the Navy, directs, that he forthwith give directions to the commander of the Navy yard, that he organize the force in his yard, & under his direction & command, so that all may be in readiness for the defence of the yard & arsenal from any attack that may be made upon it. The President expects this order to be carried into effect silently, and without creating any alarm

AN, DNA-RG 45 (M124-129). This same day, Boyle addressed a letter marked "*confidential*" to naval officers Captain Isaac Hull (1773–1843), commanding the Washington navy yard, and Master Commandant John H. Aulick, repeating AJ's instructions nearly verbatim (DNA-RG 45, M149-20).

To Martin Van Buren

(Private)

Washington Septbr. 18th. 1831—

My Dr Sir

Our mutual friend Major Eaton has just shook me by the hand, and him & Mrs. E. is to be off for Tennessee to morrow at 7 oclock A M. ~~for Nashville~~. he has just gave to the world his reply to the conspirators. I send it enclosed. I think it an able document—and as far as it has reched, & we have heard from, there appears, amonghst political friends & foes, but one opinion, and that is, condemnation to the conspirators, Calhoun, Ingham, Branch, Berrien Duff Green & Co. All things appear well at present; But my dr Sir the opposition is constant in their abuse, and it is painfull when every exertion is made by my administration for the honor & prosperity of our country, that we should be the objects of daily and continued slanders & abuse, and purely because when solicited by the people I have permitted my name to be held before the people for the next term of the Presidency. ?How disgusting this to a virtuous mind, & how I long for retirement to the peaceful shades of the Hermitage, for I assure you the depravity of human nature which is daily unfolding itself, by the slanders of the wicked part of the opposition have truly disgusted me, I therefore wish how soon I may be able, with honor to resign the trust committed to me to another, & a better hand—nothing reconciles me to my situation but the assurance of some virtuous men, that it is *now* necessary for

the preservation of the union that I should permit my name to be continued for the next canvass for the Presidency. This, with the determination never to be driven by my enemies, or to succumb to them, continues me here beyond the 4th. of March 1833 even if elected again. On the 3rd. of March 1833, I hope to be able to file a receipt in full against the national debt. this will close my ambition

Mr. Livingston has not yet returned from Newyork—this I regret, as we have lost at least ten days in preparing to make a speedy demand on Naples for satisfaction of our claims, and a renewal of our demand upon Spain in the spirit of claiming nothing ~~that is wrong~~ but what is right or permitting nothing that is wrong—which I trust, will produce justice ~~to be~~ by her to be extended to us—if we fail in this, then, to refer it to congress for their action

[1]I leave here in the morning to pay my respects to Mr Carroll & pass his birthday with him, fearing that it will be his last; Mr McLane, Major Barry, and Major Lewis, accompany me. Major Donelson & the ladies proceed to Philadelphia to place Miss McLamore at school & return in a few days. They request me together with Mr Earle & Major Lewis to present to you, your son, and Mr Vail, their kind salutations, to which mine is respectfully added, with the assurance of my continued respect & esteem

Andrew Jackson

P.S. When you read the appeal give me your ideas of its merits. Keep me advised of the movements in Europe. War over its whole surface appear to me inevitable. Present me to Mr Vaugh & Mr Randolph if with you

ALS fragments, DLC-Van Buren Papers and Cyril Clemens (18-0815). On September 20, AJ attended Charles Carroll's ninety-fourth birthday celebration at his Carrollton estate near Frederick, Md.

1. The Clemens fragment, cut out from the center of a page, begins here and ends with AJ's signature.

From James Alexander Hamilton

New York Septr 18th. 1831—

I have the pleasure, my dear Sir, to enclose an *Extra* containing the news received yesterday after the mail closed bringing accounts from London down to the 10th. ultimo.

War has commenced between the Dutch & Belgians, the latter aided by France & the former probably by Prussia. There are facts connected with this subject, tending to prove that Russia & Prussia sustain Holland, which are not generally known. When the Conferrees (The Representatives of the five Powers) proposed the 18 articles of a final separation between

Belgium & Holland, Prussia & Russia reserved their assent until Holland should accede to them. They were therefore not bound by them. On the 21st. of July, Holland published a sort of manifesto, in which she gives her reasons for not acceding to these 18 articles; endeavouring to show that they violated the previous Protocol, (the 20th.) which settled the terms of separation & which was, if I recollect right, dated on the 21st. of January last, & declares that the person who has assumed the throne of Belgium *is her enemy*. When I saw this manifesto I had no longer a doubt of war, & I am now satisfied that Prussia & Russia when they gave their conditional assent to the 18 articles, (which articles, by the way, were adopted to induce the Belgians to choose Leopold) they well knew that Holland would not accede, & intended by that reservation to be saved from the charge of a violation of good faith.[1]

I fear the Reform Bill is kept in the Commons House because there is a majority in the Lords against it, & I believe it will not be sent up until that majority shall be changed. To effect this, exertions are making of every kind.

This war will afford you an opportunity in your Message to give notice of what you shall consider the true Policy of our Country, a strict & honourable neutrality; & also to declare that we will protect our rights as neutrals.

I think should you take this Course, that it would be useful to recommend to Congress to take measures to augment our naval force in order to sustain the Position thus assumed. The effect of such a recommendation, whether measures are taken to that end or not, will be to induce Foreign Powers to believe we are in earnest when we say, we will not suffer our rights as neutrals to be disregarded

At the same time, it would be well to recommend a revision of those laws that have been passed to prohibit our Citizens from engaging on either part, and to prevent the beligerents from augmenting their force in our Ports.

These suggestions are made with the presumption that the war is a general one, and are thrown out as they occur. With the truest attachment Your friend & servt.

James A Hamilton

LS, DLC (40). Hamilton *Reminiscences*, pp. 228–29.

1. A Conference of the five great European powers—Britain, France, Austria, Prussia, and Russia—had assembled in London in the fall of 1830 to arbitrate the conflict between the Netherlands and its revolting Belgian province. On January 20 and 27, 1831, it issued protocols establishing the basis for a separation between Belgium and Holland. The Dutch government accepted the protocols but the Belgians did not, leading to further negotiations and the promulgation by the Conference on June 26 of a revised settlement in the form of the 18 Articles. The Belgians accepted this proposal; but on July 12 King William I of the Netherlands refused it, warning that a prince assuming the Belgian throne under its terms would be considered an enemy. On July 21, Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg (1790–1865) was installed as King of the Belgians. A Dutch army invaded Belgium on August 2, but

retreated after France came to Belgium's defense on August 9. A cease-fire was reached on August 12, and diplomatic efforts resumed. News of the Dutch invasion had reached New York on September 17. The Netherlands finally recognized Belgian independence in the 1839 Treaty of London.

From John Henry Eaton

Dr Sir
My wife is very sick. yet
so anxious to get out of Washingto
she will make an effort, & this e
4 O C. we calculate to be off by
of Frederick for home
Some time ago Albert plac
my hands upwards of $300. His wif
applied for it. I gave him a pap
certifying the amt, & subsequently five
(very lately) $20. He avowed his determ
not to return to Tennessee; & accord
few days since absconded. His wif
called & says the money is hers. *It w*
him I recvd it. I have refused to give
to her, not doubting that their arrang
is to get the money & be off to a
state. I should like to know of
there be any thing improper in the
I have made not to give her the
It seems to me she has no pretence of
to it; & under the circumstances I
not to pay it[.] Yours

J. H. Eat

ALS fragment, DLC (75; 18-0881). The right side of the manuscript is torn off. The Eatons left Washington for Tennessee on September 19.

From Willie Blount

Turnersville P. O. Robertson County Tenn.
Septr. 1831

Dear Sir,
Yours of the 29th. Augt. came to hand by last mail—for your kind solicitude concerning my health receive a tender of my thanks—am still on the mend, and should I be prudent, it is probable, my good state of health

may be recovered—in reciprocating for yours, your good wishes for mine & for my happiness, which I now do, I add, that my most earnest desire is, that your health may be good, & that your happiness here, and hereafter may be complete, without alloy: the good of our beloved Country requires that your health should be good for yet a long time—mind it—

We entirely concur in sentiment and feeling respecting your old, and your new Cabinet: the re-organization was necessary, & the new one is a good one, inspiring public confidence: Van Buren & Eaton acted magnanimously, and the others should, without complaint, have acted as they did, and for the like reasons; their not doing so, & their grumbling, has hurt them with the public—the opinion is, that they have not acted disinterestedly—

I well recollect that I expressed my satisfaction at your choice of your old cabinet: I approved, on the score of their being men of capacity for business, and believing, as I did, that none of them were schemers in crooked-ways: I did not, for a moment, suspect any of them of being capable of underhand-work: of intriguing: of ingratitude: of double dealing, or of a want of love of Country: but now, public opinion respecting the conduct of a triumvirate of them, & respecting that of their, now, would be leader, tells me I was in error concerning them. With them, with their leader, and with D. Green & Co., I am done. I rejoice that their schemes, of unhallowed kind, are frustrated, that they are now known, that you are triumphant, and hope that the people will keep them under. Open enemies are not to be feared: they can be met in the field & vanquished. the people will see to these things when the information is spread before them.

I am much gratified at having received a developement of the views & conduct of such workers of evil as you have found out, and am thankful for the statement of Overton, & for the letter of Rhea: they contain information of what I never doubted; to wit, that you were authorized to act, as you properly did, in Florida: now, after seeing their statements, I know the facts & trust I shall make none but a proper use of them, as I hope I should of all such information. honest men will feel indignant at the unhallowed and insidious attempts which those documents &c shew were made, with the wicked intent, of injuriously affecting you, for serving your Country ably, largely, faithfully, and effectually, & as justified by the laws of Nations; all which, I ever knew was your honest course, & never doubted the correctness of that course, on your part, believing too, that you felt yourself authorized by those in office. you can have no impression or feeling concerning the devious conduct of those graspers after reputation, (a reputation they deserve not) that I do not fully concur with you in: we feel alike about the meanness of their attempts—meanness of every kind I do, and ever did, detest, and meanness practised to destroy, if possible, the innocent, & active good man, by destroying documents, & by disavowing orders given, the preservation of which would be proper for

his support, adds depravity to that meanness. so goes the world. To you, who know my motive, I must be allowed to say, in all sincerity, that you are the Rock, on which, my trust, for political enjoyments, may be said to be founded, so you see, that I politically live, in your good works; of the correctness of which, I judge for myself; and am truly thankful that I have been, and am, so constituted, as never to have had the least willingness to believe, & that I never have believed one word said to your prejudice, from the commencement of our lives to this day this is a fact; & that I have ever been satisfied to underwrite upon your good conduct, and am in the habit of thus expressing myself, on all proper occasions, is another fact: & that it would be good, in every chapter & verse, of your eventful life, my confidence is, & has been full & complete so you see the extent & ground of my confidence, & the great stake of my pleasure in you: & that that confidence will be continued to the end of my days, is my belief; & it is, one, of the greatest pleasures of my life thus to believe in proportion to my friendship, so do I carefully scan your acts, that my pleasure may be the sweeter. I am thankful that I have had good opportunities of knowing, & that I have known much of your conduct, public & private, & that I have known it, so well, as to have derived the sincerest gratifications in approving it; and thus would be the gratifications of others, if they would be informed of it and judge fairly and honestly. their pleasure is yet to come, say, when they become liberal.

I never, for a moment, doubted but that old Penn., & Virginia would continue in the good faith—hope you have recd. mine, of the 9th. Septr., to Governor Floyd, & my underwritten note to yourself, of the same date.

I did not need Col. Johnson's contradiction of reports to your prejudice; & I expect that Ingham & Berrien, by this time, think that they ran too fast—that you should ever have thought of attempting to influence private intercourse is what I never believed, and have so said uniformly—and I have never, for a moment, believed any thing said to the prejudice of Mrs. E: she is an amiable, virtuous, intelligent & fine woman, and have uniformly so said. I have the pleasure to be acquainted with her—your friend

Willie Blount

I read the Richmond Enquirer in order to keep up with the occurrences of the day in different parts of the Union & judge independently, as I ever did, in all things, for myself—have seen Mr. Madison's letter to Mr. Ingersol concerning the U. S. Bank charter &c.—his reasoning appears strange to me, and is unsound, if the Constitution should be the guide, as it ought to be—my notion of all Banks is, away with their charters, that sources for corruption and aristocracy may be lessened—have not seen Calhoun's Book on nullification: away with all individual state nullification: its advocates are mad: the Constitution points out how it may be amended: a simple state legislature may recommend amendments to

those of others states &c. &c; I know of no other mode of nullification. Simpson ought to know that your real friends elected you from patriotic, & not selfish motives—he must be a poor bitch of a fellow, unfit for any office: he has shewn his foot.[1]

[Endorsed by AJ:] Govr W. Blount—recd. Novbr. 1rst. 1831—A. J.

ALS, DLC (40).

1. The *Richmond Enquirer* printed James Madison's June 25 letter to Charles J. Ingersoll on the Bank of the United States on July 22. Stephen Simpson had been attacking the administration in the *United States' Gazette* and *Pennsylvania Whig* since early August.

From Martin Van Buren

London Septr. 21st. 1831

My dear Sir

I have only time to say a few words to you & until I get settled you must be content with short letters. I was presented to the King to day & the public despatch to Mr. Livingston will give you a brief sketch of the substance of his reply to a short speech I made to him on delivering my credentials. His observations were more extended than I had reason to expect & the effort on his part to make a favourable impression was very obvious. The notice which I have taken of that part of his speech which relates to yourself is by no means as full as the original remarks but would justify, but as I am obliged to report from memory what was unexpectedly said & under circumstances illy calculated for distinct recollection I have thought it at least prudent to keep on the safe side. The design evidently was to make a marked & unqualified expression of his respect & regard.[1] I have recd. an invitation to attend a Launch at a few miles from the City tomorrow which the King is to attend, & under circumstances which would induce me to attend were it not for the necessity of getting off the dispatches &c &c[2] Mr McLane will be able to inform you of the ten thousand perplexities which attend a minister on his first arrival here & how completely they put it out of his power to bestow any degree of attention on his own Government. I have not as yet been able to suit myself in a house—the choice being between going far *west* or paying a great part of my salary for a comfortable residence within a convenient distance from the Palace & Foreign office &c &c. It was my intention to have written to you by this Packet upon several points which were left untouched in my last. I can only notice one viz the affairs of South Carolina in regard to the collection of the Revenues. If a fit opportunity is presented to notice that matter in the Message without exposing yourself to the imputations of dragging the matter forward I think an advantage may be secured by doing so provided the observations which are made be in a temper of great moderation and entirely exempt from any thing that

could be construed into personal allusions of a hostile character. a modest & moderate exhibition of the question deprecating in a proper manner the injurious effect produced upon the character of the Government abroad & its efficiency at home by measures and pretensions like those which are made and encouraged in the quarter refered to—&c &. I have no doubt that I shall find my situation here personally agreeable in ~~every~~ most other respects save the absolute certainty of great pecuniary sacrifices. Upon this point I see very clearly that there is no room for doubt or hope of escape. Remember me kindly to Major Lewis & Mr Earle & to Major Donelson & the ladies if they are with you not forgetting Mr & Mrs Trist & believe me to be very truly yours

M. Van Buren

P.S. Mr Irving is with me and desires to be most affectionately remembered to you. He cherishes a most devout & sincere respect for your character & is I have no doubt a man of the ~~utmost~~ most perfect purity & in every respect truly estimable.

Please to send the enclosed for me to our good friend Judge Overton.

[In John Van Buren's hand:] John takes the liberty of sending his best respects to the President & his hearty prayer for the preservation of his health & happiness. He begs to be remembered to Andrew.[3]

[Endorsed by AJ:] Septbr. 21rst. 1831—recd. Novbr. 8th.—

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (18-0860). Van Buren had arrived at London on September 13. AJ replied on November 14 (below).

1. Van Buren's September 21 dispatch to Livingston reported that the King "referred to the President, by name; said that he had observed the course followed by him since the affairs of the United States had been committed to his hands, with much attention and great interest, and, he took pleasure in adding, with great satisfaction. That detraction and misrepresentation were the common lot of all public men: That the President had not been exempt from them; but that, from all he had seen of his public course, he had formed the highest estimate of his character" (DNA-RG 59, M30-34).

2. On September 22 the King attended the launch of HMS *Thunderer* at the Woolwich dockyard on the Thames.

3. John Van Buren (1810–1866), Martin's son, had accompanied him to London.

From William Lee Davidson Ewing

Vandalia, September 24th 1831—

Sir:

I am a petitioner for your favor—and perhaps an unworthy one, but hear me. I solicit a favor, that extends indulgence to a *debtor* of the United States. I have been Receiver of Public Monies at Vandalia in the State of Illinois, and am in that character a debtor. I appeal to you as the Chief Magistrate of the Nation—having it in your power to grant those relief,

temporarily, who may by misfortune or accident become the Debtors of the Government. I only solicit indulgence for a short period. And in the first place allow me to inform you, of whom and what I am. I have yet the belief and have *now* good reason to believe, that my neighbors regard me as an *honest man*, altho a Government Debtor. I am the son of Finis Ewing of Missourie, Register of the Land Office at Lexington in that State.[1] I was in the year 1819 appointed Receiver at this place and had the honour, through my old friend and school mate Gen. R. K. Call of Florida the influence of your name to a recommendation addressed to Mr. Monroe for the Office. I became a Debtor, in this manner.

I ~~have~~ never have, nor ever could refuse to enter the land of a poor man when he was driven by the rapacity of speculators or the malignity of some more *able* neighbor, to apply at the Land Office for the entry of his home, whether he had the money or not. Thus it was, that I became a Defaulter—if this appellation be more applicable to my case. In this manner, I did many an honest man a favour, as well as many a scoundrel. This Sir, in one word, is the plain, unvarnished truth. Can such a man appeal to you with success? I do hope he may. I only pray a respite of two continuances of the suit in Kentucky against my securities & in this state against myself. I esteem that man a defaulter who is both unwilling and unable to pay. I believe myself neither the one or the other. I have the means acquired by my indulgence of the poor purchaser, but cannot command them at present.

In these times of great party strife and polytical excitement, it may not be improper for me to disclose myself freely.

I have been your supporter for two years, but was not in 1828. For this, regarding my situation, perhaps no credit or merit may be allowed me. Let us see. Such was my course in the canvass which made you President, that you permitted me to remain in office until June 1830, when I relinquished it. I wish to furnish you with the proof of my support of and friendship to your administration in order to avoid the imputation of servility, which might be charged against me.

For the first time, in my life, I was a candidate for a popular office at the August election in 1830—a seat in the General Assembly of my State. In the district in which I was a candidate 19⁄20ths were your friends ever, and against the world. I obtained out of 1500 votes polled 1250; and all I lost were from the ranks of your opponents. The session came on and notwithstanding my age and utter inexperience in legislation was elected with two dissenting voices, Speaker of the House of ~~the~~ Representatives—and those dissentients were your original and virulent opponents. In my character as Speaker and member of that body, I secured the re-election of Mr. Kane to the Senate of the U. States. Had, I opposed him, every well informed man in this State, knows that he would have been defeated. To this fact, many of your friends in this State (*at present officers*, towit Gen. Prince & Col. Alexander etc. etc.) will testify—furthermore, I supported & voted for a

preamble & resolution approving the policy of your Administration and inviting you to become a candidate for re-election.[2] And in addition to this, such was the confidence of your friends in this State in the integrity of my polytical principles in regard to you and your Administration, that I was at that time—the last session of our Legislature—mentioned as a member of the Electoral college to be selected by your friends this winter, in your favor.

I make these statements, not as a ground upon which I predicate my appeal to you for indulgence but in order to shew you that no unworthy personage asks your clemency. Perhaps you may say the force of circumstances have made me your friend & supporter. If it be true, God knows, I never have attempted or wished to controul them. And whether I am influenced by such a consideration or a more worthy motive, will be better shewn hereafter. It is true I am poor and a government Debtor, but no defaulter in the odious sense of the phrase understood by the public. Nor would any result of the suit now instituted against me—however disastrous it may be—ever induce that belief on the minds of those who know me. I can command the means in a year to sweep the accursed suit from the records of the Court. Grant it me, and you have the homage of ~~a~~ my sincerest gratitude and the thanks of numerous relatives and more numerous friends. For my character and standing in society—for who (and that which is of more importance) what I am, I refer you to Mr Kane. He has your confidence I have the best reason to know. The Court is holden in Kentucky on the first Monday in November next, and in this State on the first Monday in December. I have the honor to be yr. Excellency's most obt. hmb. Servt.

William Lee Davidson Ewing

N.B. I have but one acquaintance in Washington and that is Mr. Rives of the 4th Auditor's Office.[3]

[Endorsed by AJ:] Treasury Dept. refered—if the indulgence asked can be extended without injury to the Govt. or jeopardising the debt, let it be extended A. J.

[Endorsed by Louis McLane:] Let judgment be obtained without delay; and afterward let a reasonable stay be given if the debt be fully secured. L. M'L.

ALS, DNA-RG 206 (18-0875). Ewing (1795–1846) had been receiver of the Vandalia land office from 1820 until his removal by AJ in 1830. Speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives in 1830–31, he was later briefly governor in 1834 and U.S. senator from 1835 to 1837. In December 1830 the U.S. had sued him for $17,542.61. Payments by Ewing reduced the balance, and in December 1832 judgment against him was entered for $15,142.85. Proceedings on the judgment were suspended in 1834 and again in 1838 on Ewing's promise to pay the entire sum in installments. A Treasury report in 1840 deemed him and his security "hopelessly insolvent" (*HRDoc* 76, 26th Cong., 1st sess., p. 3, Serial 365). Ewing still owed $16,272.12 at his death in 1846.

1. AJ had appointed Finis Ewing (1773–1841) register of the Lexington, Mo., land office in March 1830.

2. In December 1830 the Illinois legislature had elected Elias Kent Kane (1794–1835) to a second term as U.S. senator. On January 3 and 4, 1831, the legislature adopted two preambles and sets of resolutions, one originating in each house. Both praised AJ's second annual message, especially on internal improvements and the tariff, and urged his reelection (Illinois *House Journal*, December 1830 session, pp. 203–4, 207–8, 214–16). In February, AJ had appointed Francis Prince (d. 1833) and Samuel Alexander (1789–1836) as land office registers at Danville and Quincy, Ill., respectively.

3. Treasury fourth auditor's clerk John Cook Rives (1795–1864) later became Francis P. Blair's partner in the Washington *Globe*.

From William Carroll

Nashville, Sept 27th. 1831

Dear General,

Two days ago I received Major Eatons defence which you were so kind as to inclose to me; and I have read it with great attention. It is written with ability, and cannot fail to make a favorable impression on the mind of every unprejudiced reader. The conduct of Messrs. Ingham, Berrien and Branch was certainly very exceptionable, and furnished good evidence of the propriety of your organizing a new Cabinet. The defence has been read with deep interest by the members of the Legislature, and one of them told me to day that it had produced a strong sympathy in behalf of Major Eaton. Indeed it has had this effect upon all who have read it. Even Colo. Erwin speaks in high terms of it, and says that he would prefer Eaton for the Senate to Grundy.[1]

Grundy and E. H. Foster are rivals before the Legislature for the Senate. Each have their warm partizans and both calculate upon success. My own opinion is that the election will not come on this session, especially as we must have a called session to lay off the congressional Districts.[2]

A preamble and Resolutions have been introduced in the House of Representatives recapitulating and approving of the leading measures of your administration, and recommending you again as Chief Magistrate. They will pass without an opposing voice in either house.[3]

The course of Duff Green in relation to your administration admonishes one to be cautious in confiding in professed friendships. He is a man in whose honor I never did confide.

Judge Overton has returned home in a bad state of health. From appearances I should not think that he will not last long.

You know that I have been for some time of opinion that you would have no opposition at the next election. All the recent developments sustain that belief. Already it is seen that the representation in a majority of the States are for you; hence no good can result from multiplying the candidates to throw the decision upon the house of representatives. Mr. Clay cannot get one half of the western votes, and surely he has no chance

elsewhere except in New England. It therefore seems to me that as the election approaches, all opposition will be withdrawn. Harmony and Union among your friends at the approaching session will accomplish much in your behalf.

As I have nothing of interest to communicate I will only add the assurance of the regard, with which, I am most sincerely Your friend

Wm. Carroll

ALS, DLC (73).

1. Andrew Erwin (1773–1834), father of John P. Erwin, had long been a foe of AJ.

2. Felix Grundy's Senate term expired on March 3, 1833. Carroll called the legislature into early session in September 1832 to redistrict the state, Tennessee having gained four House seats under the 1830 census. Balloting for senator in the immediately following regular session produced no result, with votes split between Grundy, Eaton, and Ephraim H. Foster. Grundy was reelected senator in October 1833.

3. On September 23, Tennessee legislator William M. Inge offered a preamble and resolutions applauding AJ's measures and endorsing him for a second term. The state house and senate approved them unanimously on December 12 and 13, respectively.

From Martin Van Buren

London 28th. September 1831

My dear Sir,

I had an interview with Lord Palmerston yesterday, upon the subject of your private letter of the 10th. Ultimo, which resulted in an assurance that he would cause the determination of his Government, in regard to the award of the King of the Netherlands upon the boundary question to be officially communicated to my Government, in season for your action upon it at the commencement of the next session of Congress. I requested that our conversation should be regarded as informal; and, in the course of it, stated to him that information had reached us through various channels, that His Majesty's Government had expressed to the Arbiter its acquiescence in the award, but that no direct communication of its views had, I believed, been made to the Government of the United States. He acquiesced in the correctness of this statement, and went on to say that, although the award was far from satisfactory to this Government, as well on account of the large share of the disputed premises which had been awarded to the United States, as from the manner in which the line established by it interfered with the Province of Lower Canada, yet that, under the circumstances, and anxious as they were to keep upon good terms with us, they had determined to carry the award into effect on their part. I informed him of your intention to submit the matter to the Senate for their advice, at their next session: That not being, therefore, in a situation to pronounce definitively as to the course which our Government would pursue, you did not feel yourself justified in calling upon His Majesty's Government for an

avowal of it intentions in regard to the matter, but that His Lordship could not fail to perceive the importance which would be attached to the dispositions of the British Government upon the point, in the discussions which might, and would probably, arise upon the subject in the U. States; and that, if there existed, on its part, no objection to an official communication of their intentions, it would afford a desirable facility to an intelligent and judicious disposition of the question on our part; repeating my wish that this communication should be regarded in the light of a suggestion for his consideration only, and not as a request of ours to have any particular course pursued by Great Britain. He replied that he thought the suggestion was altogether a reasonable one; that he saw no objection to a formal annunciation of the views of his Government in relation to the matter; that he would make an official communication to that effect to my Government through Mr Bankhead, and that, for greater security, one would also be sent to me. I saw him again to day at the Levee, and also Lord Gooderich, who is the Colonial Secretary, and therefore more particularly interested in the matter.[1] The latter expressed his anxiety to have the subject amicably disposed of; admitted the delicacy of the question on our side, owing to the peculiar structure of our Government, and the nature of the interest involved, and added that he had no reason to doubt the disposition of the Federal Government to do all in its power to bring the whole subject to a friendly and satisfactory issue. I hope to receive the promised communication in season for the Packet of the 8th., and will, in such case, not fail to forward it to Mr Livingston.

I am with much respect dear Sir your friend & obedient servt

M Van Buren

[Endorsed by AJ:] recd. 13th. Novbr. 1831—dated 28th. Sept.

LS in Aaron Vail's hand and AL draft, DLC-Van Buren Papers (18-0884). AJ replied on November 14, and Van Buren wrote again about the boundary award on October 14 (both below).

1. Frederick John Robinson, Viscount Goderich (1782–1859), was the Colonial Secretary. Van Buren presented his son John and Aaron Vail to the King at a September 28 royal levee at St. James Palace.

From Martin Van Buren

London Septr 28th. 1831

My dear Genl.

The letter which accompanies this will apprise you the manner in which I have attempted to carry into effect the wishes expressed in yours of the 10th. Ultimo, upon the subject of the award—which will I hope meet your approbation. I had a long conversation with Lord Palmerston, in

which he was very unreserved, & gave me the strongest reasons to confide in his dispositions towards us. He said that a very strong impression had been made here, of the dangers which this country had to apprehend from your elevation, but that they had experienced better treatment at your hands than they had done from any of your predecessors, and that I might rest satisfied, that, nothing on their part would be wanting to keep up the good spirit which now exists, & which was evidently communicating itself to all classes of the people. I assured him that they would not be disappointed in the favourable estimate which they had formed of your character & views—that I understood your sentiments well, & could from my own knowledge, speak of the earnestness & sincerity with which you reciprocate the sentiments which the King had been pleased to express; & intimated the satisfaction it would give me to be able to afford you a more correct account of the Kings speech, than I had been able to do from memory; if such a thing was consistent with the usage of this Government. He told me it was not, & that there might be objection to establishing a precedent which it might not be equally agreeable on other occasions to follow. I desired him to bear it in mind, but not to consider me as urging the point. Knowing the pains which are taking to paralize your effort abroad, by creating an impression that you ~~would~~ will not be reelected I thought it a fit occasion to give him correct views upon that point. I did the same thing to Prince Leiven of Russia who introduced the matter to me.

In a short time I shall be able to place myself in a situation to feel at home with the public men here, & I hope to make myself useful in sustaining you, in your zealous endeavours to promote the credit and interest of the Country. A Mr Cresson (a quaker) ~~and~~ a friend of & I believe agent for the Colonization Society called upon me to day, & informed me that ~~the~~ a schooner belonging to the Colony at Sierra Leone, had been destroyed by a Spanish Brig, engaged in the Slave trade, & that she had also threatened the destruction of the Societies establishment at that place &c &c.[1] The object of the communication, was, to induce our Government to keep some one or more of our vessels of War off that Station. I told him that the course which I believed the Government had prescribed to itself, was, to give the Society all the indirect aid which could be consistently extended, but not to take upon itself the protection of the Colony &c and that I had no *[reason]* to doubt that your views in regard to the establishment were as favourable as those of your predecessors ~~but~~, that I could not give him any assurances of the active co-operation of the Government ~~which was~~ in the manner desired; but that I had occasion to write to you, & would communicate what he had stated to you. He had been at Washington last winter—had called upon you, & it was evident that pains had been taken to impress him with an idea, that prejudice had been created in your mind agt. the Society &c all which I told him was a mistake [He] appears to be much respected here & is I presume influenced by fair views in the matter. I find our Consul here to be a very

worthy man & very attentive to his business. I am yet in a Hotel but hope soon to get settled. You can form no idea of the vexations & expenses attendant upon that operation. Tell my friend Livingston, that unless he has the good fortune to find a mine of gold, (silver wont do) upon his farm, he must never venture upon a mission here. If McLane has not broken his neck, or rather his purses neck, he must have committed depredations some where, which will in time come out. Remember me most kindly to all your House Hold & believe me to be most truly yours

M. Van Buren

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (18-0893).

1. In 1822 the American Colonization Society (ACS) had established Liberia on the West African coast for the settlement of American free and emancipated blacks, near the similar British colony of Sierra Leone. On June 16, 1831, the schooner *Montserado*, belonging to the U.S. agency at Liberia, and its crew were captured by a Spanish-flagged brigantine. On October 6, Elliott Cresson (1796–1854), a Philadelphia Quaker merchant then in Britain raising funds for the ACS, wrote ACS secretary Ralph R. Gurley that "I have seen Van Beuren, & told him that if the Prest. continued to refuse protection to the Colony, I would demand it from *this* Govt. If those in the Board who have influence with him, will not exercise it, I cannot reconcile it to my conscience to permit the colonists being butchered by the Spaniards, when a stranger would accord us the boon, which Jackson refused me last winter altho' a sacred duty" (American Colonization Society Papers, DLC). In response to appeals from Gurley and from U.S. agent at Liberia Joseph Mechlin, Navy secretary Woodbury ordered the schooner *Boxer* on January 9, 1832, to call at Liberia, inquire concerning the *Montserado*, and furnish "all necessary aid and protection to any vessels under the American Flag in that region" (DNA-RG 45, M149–20).

From Willie Blount

Septr. 30th. 1831

Dear Sir,

Since writing you, the other day, have read Mr Crawford's Address to the people of the U.S., of the 1st. of June last, together with the extracts accompanying it: have also read Mr. Branch's letter, & one from Major W. B. Lewis noticing a part of that letter, so far as it concerned him &c. Mr. Branch says, that it may be, that he shall write again: if he means that he shall or may write again, in order to explain certain inconsistencies of his, in his former productions, it may not be amiss: but on other accounts, as elegance of letter writing style appears not to be one of his greatest acquirements, he might as well add nothing more—neither he, nor others, can convince the public that he, or they understood what Col Johnson said, or meant to have said, better than the Col. understood himself—on that head, I believe, the public are satisfied.[1]

Mr. Crawford appears to write with candor, independence, energy & great clearness, and his pen cuts his opponents as with a two-edged sword which makes deep wounds requiring great skill to cure without leaving a

scar. His comments on Mr. Calhoun's Notes, & his common-sense version of them, are very severe: his touches on Job's exclamation, and on the lyon's skin, on the Ass, & the fitness of inferrences to be drawn therefrom, as they relate to Book-writing, and Sham-Standing, are appropriate, & should be remembered by all who feel the propensity to indulge in the writing fever, or who are troubled with that itching humour; many of whom, had best pause, and think twice, before they come, once, before a criticising public—what will this writing, this defamation part of our world come to? unhallowed ambition surely makes those who feel it mad.[2] I expect however, that that Address of Mr. Crawford will cause sundry other publications in reply, or in self defence, & perhaps some calls to the field of honor, to be settled by powder and ball, may result.

Am glad to see late publications informing, that the claims against France are said to have been allowed, & that those against Naples & Spain are in a fair way of being shortly allowed—your thoughts and labours about these must have been great—thanks to you therefor—success in getting those claims allowed, & the claimants receipt of their dues, will relieve many of them as much as if mill-stones had been taken off their necks.

Mr. Rush appears to be mightily beset with his Anti-masonic fever: he had best take great care, 'till his head,' never unco strong—his writing hand will make the road to his errors very plain in future, as heretofore —he reminds me of the man of whom it was said, that he thought he had had the good fortune to be born a great man, as his father, but who labored under the misfortune of being unable to convince any body of it—he may have acquired the polites very well, as the old family negroe said of his young master, who, had made the tour of Europe & had returned home, but, said he, he no got the sensibles like old master, his father[3]—your friend

Willie Blount

The greater, that is, the republican interest, includes all minor interests & that the greater may be effected, The Congress, by the appointment of Committees of genuine republicans, in each House, on their part, and then by a hearty & firm support of your recommendations for the public good, by all republicans, without whiling away their time in opposing the notionate motions of the opposition, only proposed to prevent any thing good being done, should, on their part, as the genuine republicans did, during Jefferson's administration, unite by acting in unison in support of the great republican interest, & then, your administration would be more largely for the benefit of the Country, & opposition would cease—a firm republican unity & concert in action is all that is needed to give life to your principles.

Judge John C. Hamilton, now with me on a friendly visit, requests me to present you his most friendly regard, & omits writing as he says, only

because he knows you have enough to do without loosing time to read private how-de letters of correspondence. He is hearty in his desire for the success of your administration.[4]

ALS, DLC (40).

1. On June 1, William H. Crawford issued an address "To the Citizens of the United States" in response to Calhoun's February 17 publication on the Seminole controversy. Crawford's exposition first appeared in the Milledgeville *Georgia Journal* on August 25 and was reprinted by the *Globe* on September 13 and 14 and *Niles* on September 17. Charging Calhoun with a "want of veracity" and "reckless disregard of the truth," Crawford essayed to prove that AJ's January 6, 1818, Rhea letter had been before Monroe's Cabinet in July 1818. Crawford acquitted himself of improperly disclosing Cabinet secrets, repudiated Calhoun's charge of conspiring against him or fomenting the recent controversy, and accused Calhoun in return of conspiracy, defamation, sham Republicanism, and pervasive dishonesty.

In his August 22 letter to the *Roanoke Advocate*, Branch had accused William B. Lewis of contriving to drive him out of the Cabinet for his family's refusal to associate with Mrs. Eaton, even though, as proved by their earlier private correspondence, Lewis himself "in the winter of 1827–28, when there could be no unworthy motive to mislead either of us, considered Mrs. Eaton an unsafe associate for his daughter." Lewis answered in an August 31 letter to the *Globe*, published September 2. He denied trying to drive Branch from the Cabinet, upbraided him for discussing their private letters without permission, and explained that his onetime doubts about Mrs. Eaton had derived from distant "gossip tales," which he had found on arriving in Washington in 1829 to be "totally without foundation." Branch had closed his August 22 letter by saying that "I may at some future time add to these views."

2. Crawford said in his June 1 address that he had "never, before the appearance of Mr. Calhoun's several publications, understood and felt the force and intensity of that exclamation of the patriarch Job, 'Oh that mine adversary had written a book,'" since Calhoun in doing so had convicted himself "*by legal evidence*" of lying and moral turpitude. Crawford likened Calhoun to the ass in Aesop's fable who frightened the forest creatures by donning a lion's skin. When the ass began to bray, "the spell was dissolved; the affrighted beasts returned from their coverts, and collecting around, they stripped him of the lion's skin, and exposed him to the scorn and ridicule of the assembled beasts." Crawford said that Calhoun's address, like the ass's braying, "has produced enquiry and criticism. And enquiry and criticism cannot fail to expose the Vice President to the scorn and ridicule, not of the assembled beasts, but of the citizens of the United States."

3. Richard Rush's father, Benjamin Rush (1746–1813), was a renowned physician, reformer, and signer of the Declaration of Independence.

4. John C. Hamilton (c1770–1833) of Henry County was a Tennessee circuit judge.

From Felix Grundy

Nashville, Sept 30th 1831—

Dear Sir,

I think, I have with tolerable certainty ascertained, that Judge McLean, will not be run at the next election, altho my impression was different. Mr Clay, I imagine will run, and in the mean time, will be a member of the Senate.

Resolutions strongly approving of the Administration have been introduced into the Assembly here—no opposition of consequence will or can be made to them.

I discover it is stated in the Globe, that Rowan, Bibb Grundy, Wickliff, Daniel &c. have a knowledge of meetings of members of Congress to remonstrate with you to turn Majr Eaton out of the War Department—to this, I have to say, that since, I have been in the Senate—I have attended two meetings of members only—at one, that subject, nor any thing relating to it, was named. As to the other, I was requested to attend, without the object being made known to me. I attended at Mr Bibb's room—another subject unconnected with any individual was taken up & conversed on—after that business was over—a member did name the subject about Majr. Eaton &c—another member opposed it. I united with the latter and the subject was dropped—this is all the knowledge I have of meetings of members.[1] I make this statement to you, that no improper impression may be made on your mind in relation to my knowledge on that subject. yrs. with great respect

Felix Grundy

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr Grundy—recd Octbr 11 to be preserved A. J

ALS, DLC (40).

1. Samuel Ingham's July 26 public letter to AJ (above) had repelled the *Globe*'s charge that Calhoun's friends in Congress had met during the 1829–1830 session to ask AJ to remove Eaton from the Cabinet. The *Globe* repeated the charge on August 4, naming among witnesses congressmen Robert Desha of Tennessee and Henry Daniel of Kentucky and Senator George Mortimer Bibb (1776–1859) of Kentucky. The *US Telegraph* on August 9 branded this account a "falsehood" and explained that rather, at "an accidental meeting" several of AJ's "personal and devoted political friends" had agreed to ask him, not to remove Eaton, but to hold regular Cabinet meetings to decide and clarify his administration's measures. On September 8, the *Telegraph* published an August 25 letter from Desha confirming this version, and naming Grundy and others as witnesses. The *Globe* replied on September 10 that while requesting Cabinet meetings "may have been *one of the objects*, . . . the main purpose" of the meeting was to solicit Eaton's removal, and that "Messrs. Rowan, Grundy, Bibb, Daniel, Wickliffe, as well as General Desha, know this to be the fact." Eaton's *Candid Appeal* also charged that the meeting, which he placed around March 20, 1830, was held to procure his removal. On February 20, 1832, Charles A. Wickliffe published an address concerning this meeting in the *National Intelligencer*. He said he had called it to urge AJ to hold more Cabinet meetings, and identified the attendees as himself, Bibb, and Daniel (not Rowan) of Kentucky, and Hugh L. White, Grundy, Desha, Cave Johnson, and James K. Polk of Tennessee. Wickliffe gave "*an unqualified denial*" that the meeting was held in Calhoun's interest or to procure Eaton's removal, and appended confirming statements from Daniel, Johnson, and Bibb.

October

To John Coffee

Washington Octbr. 3rd. 1831

My Dr. Genl.

When yours of the 14th. ulto. reached me I was confined to my bed with a severe illness—it was not shewn me until yesterday. I rejoice to find, by the goodness of an oerruling providence, that your dear wife has been restored to health, to you, & your dear children. ?What a bereavement it would have been to you, & your dear children, to have lost such a wife, such a mother. ?how grateful should we be to our saviour, and our god, for her preservation, and restoration to health, and for that daily preservation, & blessings which he is constantly bestowing upon us—present me kindly to Polly, with my prayers for her continued health, & long life, as a blessing to you, and to your family, to whom present me affectionately.

Major Eaton was detained at Baltimore until yesterday by the severe illness of Mrs. Eaton—he has started to Tennessee and will, I have no doubt, adopt your advice, which is the advice of all his friends. His appeal has taken well with the publick—*all*, both friends & foes, applaud it. The ex secretaries with the atto. Genl, Calhoun Duff & Co, are politically dead—for the present adieu

Andrew Jackson

P.S. My last will shew you, that Hutchings had made known to me his pecuniary wants. I had supplied them as you will find from my last, with his receipt inclosed—he has entered college—he has taken three ticketts —that is to say three classes in the college, which will employ all his time. He is now determined to become a scholar, his thoughts run upon Miss Mary Mc.L. & I have assured him unless he becomes celebrated as a scholar, & polished gentleman, he need not aspire to her affections that he has both in his power—the first by a continued application to his studies—the second by a constant attention to, & obedience of all rules laid down for the government of the University, and associating with none but the first class of society, not of wealth, but of moral character & conduct. I believe he has resolved to do well & I hope for the better yrs A. J.

ALS, THi (18-0911).

To James Renwick Willson

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4, 1831.

Sir—

Your favor of the 14th ultimo was duly received, and would have been sooner acknowledged, but for a late indisposition which confined me ty my bed several days. The zeal which animates your board in behalf of the Indians, is, I have no doubt, disinterested and praiseworthy; and may, at a future period, be productive of beneficial results. The war department will not, however, be prepared to take into consideration any plan for the education of the emigrants, until the more pressing work of their removal and settlement shall have been accomplished. On the return of Governor Cass you will probably receive from him, in reply to the communication you mention, such information on the subject as it may be in his power to afford.

Accept, sir, the assurance of my respectful and friendly regard,

ANDREW JACKSON.

Printed, *Albany Daily Advertiser*, February 3, 1832 (mAJs).

From William Pope Duval

Tallahassee Octor 4th. 1831

Dear General

I return you my thanks for the Pamphlet written by Majr. Eaton, It devellops many facts of which I was ignorant, and I presume the Public was as little informed as myself The appeal bears on its face, an open frank and convincing candour. Truth stands out in bold relief amidst the thousand slanders that have been showered on the Public

I have long believed that he was more persecuted on your account, than on his own. The reorganization of your Cabinet was required by the best interests of your country—and the strongest evidence of real friendship and personal attachment was given by Majr. Eaton, in setting the example of retireing—he saw and felt the necessity of depriving your enemies of any pretext for complaint, against you on his account. While he well knew—that *you* and not *himself* was the real obsticle to the views of a set of men who—were seeking to drive you from a reelection, to the station you now occupy. The people however will not consent to this course—as they know and feel, that the essential interests of our country, and the great Democratic part, can only rest in safety under your controle. The conduct of Mr Ingham Berrien and Branch has never meet my approval. They should have at once resigned and taken as your friends a part of the responsibility. True friends ever seek to share responsibility

and even danger—your Secretarys are able men Mr Livingston, from his age experience and principles, and quallifications will add strength and confidence to your administration. No man can question the integrity and ability of the Secretary of the Treasuary—and next to Judge White of Tennessee Govr. Cass—would have been my choise over any other in the union. Mr. Woodbury—has talents, and firmness—modesty, and a warm heart. I am not only pleased with your selections, but I rejoiced, at the event. I believe every word Coln. R M Johnson has written on the subject which the ex=ministers have disclosed to the Public. I will remember in the winter 1829:30 that there was a rumour that Mr Branch Ingham and Berrien were to leave their stations In a conversation afterwards with you I mentioned that the public said there was a divison in your cabinet and some change would take place. You stated to me that no change would be made but that you feared the harmony did not prevail which was neccessary for the proper conduct of the Government That all the Secretarys knew before they accepted office that Majr Eaton a tried friend of many years standing was to be associated with them—and they all them appeared to be perfectly satisfied with him—and if they were not, it was due to you, that they should not have *accepted* their Departments—you then expressed fears that some combination had been formed to drive Majr Eaton from the cabinent and that you believed the course pursued towards his family was only one part of a plan to accomplish that object. You expressed a hope that none of the Heads of Department—had entered into such a measure. But you ~~expressed~~ had ~~a~~ determin~~ation~~ed to have Harmony at any rate—you disclaimed any intention to interfere with their domestic and family arrangements, while you expressed the opinion that Mrs Eaton was wantonly and grossly slandered—finally you closed your remarks to me nearly in these words—"I will do all in my power to restore harmony and union among the heads of Department if this cannot be effected, every man of them shall retire." These causes were deeper (than were communited to the Public) is now appears from Majr. Eatons statement, and I cannot withhold my conviction and assent, so strong is truth, even if I would, without sinking in my own opinion.

I confess to you that untill I saw and became acquainted with Mr Van Buren at your house—I had entertained the common opinion that he was an intriguing, cautious cunning man. I meet him under this belief It did not last long. Every time I meet him, the open and bold manner in which he expressed his opinions on men, and principles—astonished me, I looked at him closely and watched every sentiment that he uttered—and from that time to the present I have ever declared—that so far from *concealing* his *feelings* or *sentiments*—That I considered him the most *bold*, (*if not imprudent*) statesman I had ever seen at Washington. I confess my opinion was utterly changed of Mr Van Buren—and I consider him a great, good, frank and warm hearted man nor can any *man living*—have so many warm and *devoted friends* among the *first men* of our country—

whos. character was, mean selfish, cunning & cautious, as his is represented by his enemies.

I have no opinions, humble as they may be that I would disguise from you My determination to retire from office as soon I have my conduct investigated by the Senate, has become absolutely necessary for the benifit and advancement of my family[1] I have made many sacrifices to remain in Florida but a large family dependant on my office as their only support cannot expect any thing but poverty if I should, drop off. I must as soon as I can make the necessary arrangements for a home in Kentucky & take them to a place where my death will not deprive them of a plain and certain support I have neither the motive or the inclination to flatter you or your friends—next to my own father, I revere and esteem you my opinion of yourself was formed and decidedly when my family was with you and your sainted partner long before you were spoken of as President, I saw you at your own house, at the places of Public resort and in parties among your friends It may be vanity—but I ought at least to know mankind—my opinion of you is my own. I studied your character and was satisfied of its elevation and purity.

Majr. Eaton, has proved to you all that the most honorable and virtuous friend ever did to any other. His appeal is a masterly defence of yourself, the style is vigorous, clear manly and convincing—no ambiguity, nothing—concealed, or misterious. The feelings of the heart are displayed—with an ardour & warmth that I felt was answered by my own. No man feels that he has been persecuted more than myself, and none wishes more sincerely that he may triumph over his enimies.

I have always loved R. M Johnson, brave, virtuous, and honorable, he was never known to flinch from either danger, or truth. I have always said no man from Kentucky ever rendered such important services. He is slandered and abused, because of his virtues & worth.

I was delighted at the election of Genl. Adair the defeat of Kincaid was as important as it has proved overwhelming.[2] I only regret that Genl. Adairs feelings, will suffer from my contest with White, you know the friendly interest I have ever manifested for Genl. Adair in my letters and convesations with you. It is therefore painful to me at his advanced age, to subject him to his first appearince again in public life to the scene which he must witness at the City. Coln. White will not do any man justice that he has injured so deeply as myself—without he cannot help it.

I would gladly heal rather than do any act that may produce hostility among your friends—but I must not submit to imputations that effect my character.

I enclosed to you a private letter from Wordan Pope of Louisville Kentucky to me It was never designed to meet your eye, or that of any person, except myself I consider it confidential—but as he is your friend *against the world*, and one too as *disinterested* as you ever had in Kentucky—it may give you pleasure to see the opinions and views of

a practical and strong minded and self taugth man. Several expressions in his letter are much stronger than they would have been, to any, but to his *friend & relation*.[3] When I reach Washington, I will receive back the letter. My family have most of them been ill. My daughter who was with me at your house (Elizabeth) when last in Washington is now at the point of death—my oldest son and younger one is also very ill—but not dangerous—such a year as we have had in this country I hope never will appear again—disease has prostrated ¾ of our inhabitants—fortunately but few in proportion have died.[4] I shall go to Kentucky the first moment I can leave my fmaily and from thence to Washington.

Coln. Butler is still confined and Mrs Butler and all the children are unwell They have slost their youngest child[5] Genl. Call & his family have been seick but are somewhat better.

Coln. Gadsden and his laidy are on their way to Washington. They have both escaped.[6] I am sincerely your friend

Wm. P. Duval

[Endorsed by AJ:] Govr. Duval—enclosing Mr W. Popes confidential letter. Duval, on Eatons appeal, approves it, in the loudest strain. This with its enclosure to be safely preserved A. J.

ALS, DLC (40).

1. On April 18, AJ had issued Duval an interim commission for a new four-year term as governor of Florida Territory. On May 10, territorial delegate Joseph M. White had announced his intent to submit proofs of Duval's official abuse and corruption to the Senate (Tallahassee *Floridian & Advocate*, June 2, 1831). AJ sent Duval's nomination to the Senate on December 7, and White's evidence was introduced on December 13. On April 26, 1832, the Senate Judiciary Committee reported that the charges against Duval were unsubstantiated and that he ought to be confirmed. The Senate confirmed Duval on April 30 by 32 to 10. He served until 1834.

2. Former governor John Adair (1757–1840) had defeated incumbent John Kincaid (1791–1873) in the August Kentucky congressional elections.

3. Duval's mother was Worden Pope's second cousin.

4. Duval's children, including daughter Elizabeth and eldest son Burr Harrison Duval (1809–1836), all survived the sickness.

5. Mary Lucinda Butler (1830–1831), daughter of Robert and Rachel Hays Butler, had died September 2.

6. James Gadsden's wife was Susanna Gibbes Hort Gadsden (1786–c1858).

[Enclosure: Worden Pope to Duval]

Louisville Augt 19th 1831

Dear Sir

The Congressional Elections in Kentucky Indiana Illinois and Missouri, have terminated favorably for the present Administration and its friends. In Kentucky we have eight, out of the twelve representatives. We have beaten the Traitors, Chilton and Kincaid. We are nearly balanced in our Legislature. We fear not our adversaries. All the Clay-Boys who violated their pledges at last session, are *left at home* by the people, except Dyer,

of Ohio County and he stands *pledged to obey instructions*, which he will get.[1]

In Indiana we had but one of her three Congressmen. Now *we have all three*. In Illinois there was no shew of opposition; and in Missouri we have beaten the opposition *to death*. Pettis distanced Davy Barton alias "The little Red" for Congress.[2]

The conflict has been an active, bitter, violent and corrupt one. More depended on the issue, than ever has, on any election in the Union. The plan was, to *Unite all the fragments* of the opposition, under the banners of Calhoun, as the Nucleus of the Combination, and to reject the nominations of the members of the new Cabinet, next Winter, in the Senate. This scheme is defeated by the Western Elections.

Calhoun is the real cause of the dissolution of the late Cabinet. In his appeal to the people, he says that he was "neutral" between Gen. Jackson and Mr Adams in the Election 1824.[3] This is strange language in the mouth of one, who so anxiously seeks the presidency. He was *neutral* between the two prominent candidates holding opposite *principles*, and diametrically opposed to each other in their views of national policy. This is a poor proof of Calhouns patriotism & integrity. After 1824 he boldly and actively supported Gen. Jackson, in the Canvass and Election of 1828. Why did he join the Jackson party? Had his own political principles and opinion, undergone a change? He does not tell us so. Did he not ascertain the course and result of popular opinion? Was it not, in his aspirations for the presidency, better to elect Gen. Jackson, from the *West* for *four years*, and then succeed him, than to elect Mr Adams for four years, from the *East*, and thus bring in Mr Clay from the *West* for eight years. This would have been the case, most certainly, had Mr Adams been elected by the people, for a second term.

It was believed by Gen: Jackson & his friends, that he would be able to accomplish the purposes of his Election, and retire at the end of four years. Mr Calhouns plans were directed to succeed him peaceably and quietly, by the strength and friendship of the Jackson party. His election, entirely depended on that party. He formed his dynasty and Ingham, Branch and Berrien belonged to it.

Gen Jackson, felt an immediate bitter and violent opposition. His measures, were thwarted by the opposition, in which Mr Calhouns friends, sometimes aided. It was discovered by the Republican party, that nothing would be gained by the Election of Gen Jackson unless he should serve another term. Hence he was called upon, for that purpose. Mr Calhoun believed this to be the work of Van Buren. Mr Calhoun could not run a third time in succession for the Vice-presidency. If Gen. Jackson were elected for a second term, Van Buren would be right hand man and the cock of the walk for that period. Mr Calhoun would for the same time, be in *private life*, unless he superceded some of his friends in Congress His intrigues forced the president to write a *private* note of a personal

nature to Mr Calhoun. Instead of ~~the~~ replying with frankness and candor 1st. That he believed that Gen. Jackson transcended his orders while in Florida. 2d That he was, at first, for a court of enquiry on him, but after hearing the other members of the Cabinet and the president, he changed his opinion. And 3d That he supported the Election of Gen. Jackson, and would not agree to be accused and tried on the testimony of his enemies, he declared a plot against him, and appealed to the nation for the purpose of *compelling* Gen. Jackson to *decline a re-election*. Van Buren & Eaton, and his poor wife were made the first objects of attack. The voluntary resignations of Van Buren & Eaton, was unexpected by Mr Calhoun and his friends, and removed the principal battery of attack. And the required resignations of Ingham Branch & Berrien carried ruin to Mr Calhoun and those Ex-secretaries. Then those beautiful diamonds in his cap, became enraged and fell, with "malign influence," on the *character of a woman*. They have sunk their own characters for Mr. Calhoun, by descending from their high stations, to *vulture*, in Billingsgate abuse.

Mr Calhoun knew that the friends of Gen. Jackson, were *his friends* and looked to him as the successor of Gen. Jackson. Mr Calhouns appeal to the nation which was "deprecated" by Mr Berrien, was intended as a *pulse-feelor*, to ascertain if Gen Jackson's friends would *abandon* him and *join Calhoun*.[4] The *rupture* between the president and Vice-president, made the Clay-party prick up their Ears like wolves. A coalition was projected between Calhoun & Clay and their friends, to reject the nomination of the new Cabinet, and crush the present Administration. If the Western Elections had been favorable, to the opposition, a combination would have been formed, headed by Mr Calhoun, in the senate to reject the new Cabinet and force Gen. Jackson into retirement. From the Evils of the Cabal, the Western Elections have delivered the administration and the nation. Now let Mr Calhoun, if he dares, to go on with his plan. If he shall, if will make an Earthquake, with the people which will shake him, into Hell. Van Buren was his Mordecai in the Kings Gate[5] Van Buren was too wise for him, in making his unexpected resignation. Mr Calhoun will find that "an able General should *look behind*, as well as *before him*."[6] He is on the pivot. He may yet retreat, and leave Ingham, Branch & Berrien, to their fate, as he did Edwards.[7] But if he turns over, and acts in hostility against Gen. Jackson and the new Cabinet, burnt Brandy will not save him. If let in the street, the Dogs would not lick his blood. Like Clay, who is politically dead, he could not wait for the Goose, to lay her Golden Eggs. Hence I deem the result of the Western Elections of the highest importance. I want Mr Calhoun to turn his face from Mecca. Your friend

Worden Pope

ALS, DLC (39).

1. Elected to Congress as a Jacksonian, Kincaid had voted for the Maysville Road bill and against Indian removal. State representative Dillis Dyer (1795–1858) was one of several legislators who had made campaign pledges to obey constituent instructions to support a

Jackson man for the U.S. Senate. In the November 1831 election he voted for Henry Clay over Jackson candidate Richard M. Johnson.

2. Supporters had dubbed Missouri senator David Barton "the little red" for the gamecock-like feistiness of his attacks on the administration. In 1831 his term ended and he lost a run for Congress against incumbent Spencer Pettis by a reported 8,302 votes to 4,775. Pettis was fatally wounded in a duel on August 26.

3. William H. Crawford's December 14, 1827, letter to Alfred Balch, published by Calhoun in his February 17 *Telegraph* exposition on the Seminole controversy, alleged that Calhoun had supported Adams for president in 1824. To this, Calhoun had appended a footnote explaining that after his own withdrawal from the 1824 race, he had "assumed a perfectly neutral position" between Jackson and Adams. Bearing "very friendly personal and political relations to both, I would have been very well satisfied with the election of either" (*Calhoun Papers*, 10:555–56).

4. Berrien in his July 22 public address on the Cabinet dissolution said that he had "studiously avoided" partaking in the Seminole controversy, "except to deprecate Mr. Calhoun's publication."

5. In the Book of Esther, Mordecai in the king's gate foils chief royal counselor Haman's evil designs to destroy the Jews and control the king.

6. Plutarch's "Life of Sertorius," Ch. 18.

7. In a series of newspaper pieces in 1823 signed "A. B.," Senator Ninian Edwards of Illinois had accused William H. Crawford, then Treasury secretary, of mishandling public funds. A House investigation in 1824 failed to sustain Edwards's charges and cast doubt on his veracity, compelling him to resign his new appointment as minister to Mexico. Calhoun, whom Crawfordites charged with being behind Edwards's accusations, did not offer evidence in the House investigation.

To [Lewis Cass]

Octbr 5th. 1831—

The President with his respects, encloses a note from the Honble. John Rowan of Ky to the secretary of war. It is the P—t's desire that the youth named recceive a warrant to enter the military accademy on the first vacancy from the State.

The Secretary of war will please inform judge Rowan of the appointment of the youth as soon as made, and enclose him, as requested, the warrant for his admission.

[Endorsed by AJ:] War Dept. A. J—

AN, DNA-RG 94 (M688-77). AJ Donelson directed AJ's note to War Department chief clerk John Robb, Cass then being out of town. AJ enclosed a September 24 note, addressed to Cass, from former Kentucky senator John Rowan, seeking a cadet's warrant for his nephew Joseph Allen Rowan (DNA-RG 94, M688-77). Rowan was appointed in October and enrolled at West Point in 1832, but was dismissed the same year.

To Louis McLane

Washington City Oct
Oct. 5t. 1831

Sir,

I have been informed that the agents for the Creek and Cherokee nations have not complied with the orders of the Govt in the distribution of the last annuities: and that the agent for the former has paid out large sums in discharge of judgements recovered by the white citizens of Alabama from the red citizens of the same state. As such conduct, if true, cannot be overlooked, you will please call upon those agents for a report stating the manner in which they have paid the last annuities, and whether any portion of those annuities has been applied to the payment and discharge of judgements as mentioned.

As the white citizen has no other claim on the red than he has on the white for the payment of judgements recovered—that is on his person and property agreeably to the laws of Alabama, you will readily see the impropriety of the interference with the subject on the part of the agent. yrs. respectfully

Andrew Jackson

[Endorsed by McLane:] Let the agent be written to for his report. L. ML. A. S. W. Octr 6. '31

LS in AJ Donelson's hand, DNA-RG 75 (M234-74). McLane was acting secretary of war in Lewis Cass's absence. On June 17, 1830, the War Department had ordered that Indian annuities were henceforth to be paid directly to individuals or families instead of chiefs or governments. Instructions were sent to agents the next day, June 18 (DNA-RG 107, M6-12; DNA-RG 75, M21-6). On June 7, 1831, Creek agent John Crowell reported that white claims in excess of $22,000 for expenses authorized by the Creek chiefs would consume most of the year's annuity, and that it would save great trouble and expense to pay the remainder to the towns rather than parcel it out in small sums to individuals. Indian superintendent Samuel S. Hamilton had replied on June 29 that the government had nothing to do with the claims, which were a private affair between the Indians and claimants and should not be paid directly from the annuity. Crowell was to distribute the annuity individually if practicable; but if not, he could exercise discretion and pay it "so as to give general satisfaction" to the Creeks (DNA-RG 75, M234-222; M21-7).

At McLane's direction, Hamilton wrote Crowell and Cherokee agent Hugh Montgomery on October 6 and 7, stating AJ's complaint and demanding an explanation (DNA-RG 75, M21-7). Crowell replied to Cass on October 22, asking the names of his informants and promising to prove that the charge of paying large sums to whites from the annuity was "as false as it is malicious" (DNA-RG 75, M234-222). Montgomery wrote Cass on October 28 that he was trying to distribute the annuity severally according to instructions but with little success, owing to the difficulty in reaching widely scattered recipients and the reluctance of many Cherokees to take the money in the face of pressure and threats from their own chiefs and officials (DNA-RG 75, M234-74). On January 20, 1832, AJ wrote Cass reproving the discretion Hamilton had allowed Crowell on June 29. AJ belittled the practical impediments to distributing the annuity individually, accused the agents of laziness, and ordered that "hereafter no such discretionary power" be allowed them except by Cass's "express direction in writing" (*SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 3, pp. 23–24, Serial 246).

From Robert Minns Burton

(Private)

Murfreesborough
Oct 5th AD 1831—

Dear General

Your very welcome favour of the 12th of Sept. came to hand a few days since and I availe myself of an opportunity afforded while at this place of answering your truly acceptable letter. the appeal of Maj Eaton I have read with great pleasure—it is surely a very able document calculated to produce a powerfull effect with the whole american people. in Wilson Rutherford and at Nashville amongst the members of the General Assembly it has already produced a considerable excitement in favour of Maj Eaton. it is looked upon as the knell of the departed greatness of the ex secreataries Mr Berrien and Mr Calhoun, it is impossible that they can withstand its influence before a candid and impartial community. the appeal came at the proper time, it came when the people were sickened and insulted at the continual assaults upon an injured female, they see that they were deluded and deceived by designing men and there is a virtuous reacting energy in the people that will in less than twelve months place Maj Eaton and his family upon higher ground than either of his fallen adversaries dare aspire to. Since this production has made its appearance Maj Eaton is strongly talked of by the members of the Assembly as a successor to Mr Grundy. You are aware that Mr E H Foster is in nomination against Mr Grundy but if the election is postponed for twelve months I think that Maj Eaton will be the senator if he desires the situation and it is known to be your wish that he should succeede; so soon as I discovered through the news papers that Mr Grundy was the friend of Mr Calhoun in correcting his intended Correspondence before it went to the press and there by makeing him appeare before the public in a garbe different from the true one, I wrote you that it would have the effect to defeat him when he againe came before the Legislature—I have been to Nashville the members conversed freely on the subject and I am well convinced that he cannot be elected, Foster is thought by many to be too light and visoniary for the weighty and responsible duties that devolve on a Senator; and will on that ground be opposed by many. The Election will not be brought on this session of the Legisslature and there will be time enough to act guive me your views on this subject and I will know how to manage the matter it requires as we know the utmost delicacy it will only be necessary for your views to be known at the proper time and your wishes I think can be accomplished.

It has been said here that Govr. Carroll will be offered a mission to some Court let me know under the same seal if this is probable if this should meet your views of propriety in this way some of the aspirants for senator can be disposed of either Bell or Foster would be a candidate for

Governor if Bell which I think is most probable then Foster will succeede him in Congress let me know as early as you receive this how this matter is likely to result and I will guive you some further hints on this subject. You seem to apprehend in your letter that I was greatly mortified at my late defeat it is true that for the first week or two I was ~~greatly~~ some what shagrined but those feelings have now quite worn off and when I reflect that I run against a man who was always understood to be the strongest man in the District aided as he was by a long traine of conexions and the most powerfull party ever arrayed against any man I am well pleased with the honourable pool which I held. I have sickened General Hall with politicks and he says he never will be before the people againe particularly if I am to be his opponent.

Desha's interfearence made it a very expensive campaigne to me and I am now out at the Courts tring to make up my losses but his funeral has lately been preached in company with his loving friend Calhoun and hereafter he will be a harmless man.

The whole Donelson conexion of Davidson & Sumner did every thing they could against me they united with Colo Allen and his son Dixion and their party in Smith and Desha in Sumner and in consiquence of their opposition they used it as an argument to the people that your feelings were against me;[1] there are some men in Tennessee and I feare some in Washington that are not the friends to you or your friends that they should be but you are not the only man that has felt the withering Stroke of ingratitude—for it happens sometimes with the best of men that they chearish in their own bosom through the chilling blasts of winter the viper, that in the heat of Summer, would inflict on him the deadly sting, how can a man be the warm devoted friend of Branch of Mr Calhoun and of his politicks and still be a friend of yours? *Whoever he may be thus situated* and still holds out the hand of friendship—he is a Spy in the camp and requires at least to be watched—

I was much pleased to learne that you had procured the Statement of Mr Rhea on the subject of the Confidential letter this is the key that will compleately unlock and expose to public view the Great Duplicity of Mr Calhoun in his conduct on the Seminole Question; will you do me the favour to send me a copy of that letter?

You enquire in your letter how A J Donelson is progressing he is going to school at this time to Mr Black of Rutherford—he has of late I understand determined not to study a profession he knows that he has enough to keep him above the wants of life and these two causes combined are well calculated to check the onward course of a youth, it possibly might have a favourable influence on his future fortune that he should be sent to some distant colledge where he would be thrown upon his own resources and learne to appreciate the value of a good education. Elizabeth is a promissing child and progressing finely—[2]

my family was well when I left home our little Andrew Jackson grows finely—he has some fine devellopments the circumstances under which he was made and borne forbids the idea that he should be any other than a smart fellow my Dear Martha requested to be remembered to you in the most affectionate manner and you will accept for myself the assureancies of my highest reguard and esteem.[3] Your friend & obt sert

Robert M Burton

ALS, DLC (40). AJ replied on October 19 and 20 (below).

1. Davidson, Summer, and Smith were Middle Tennessee counties. Robert Allen (1778–1844) of Smith County was a former congressman. His son was Tilman Dixon Allen (1808–1834).

2. This Andrew Jackson Donelson (1815–1861) was the brother of Burton's wife Martha. Elizabeth was probably Martha's sister Elizabeth Hays Donelson (1819–1850). Samuel P. Black (1775–1837) conducted the Bradley Academy in Rutherford County, Tenn.

3. Andrew Jackson Burton (1831–1862) was Burton's newborn son.

From Anthony Butler

[This document is available only as printed in John Spencer Bassett's Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. *Italicized passages are Bassett's decodings of words written in numeric code.]*

Mexico City, October 6, 1831.

I cautiously approached *the secretary of foreign affairs*, on subject of *transfer of Texas*, without intimating that the *United States* feel any desire to become the *owner*. His reply was that the *supreme government of* Mexico held no part of the *land as national domain*, and could therefore exercise no power *of transfer* over any part *of the territory* of *the confederation*. That all the right of *property in the land* appertained to the different *states* who alone could exercise the power of *alienation*. That the *general government* if they were to attempt such a measure would not only violate *the constitution* but produce resistance *on the part of the states*. So soon as I have released myself from some questions of interest still depending that I do not wish to be embarrassed by any new question, the *secretary* and myself will enter seriously into the matter, and I feel some confidence that if by any means his scruples in relation to want of power over the subject on the part of *general government* can be vanquished, we may in that event *obtain*.

Printed, John Spencer Bassett, ed., *Correspondence of Andrew Jackson*, 4:354 (18-0929). Bassett labeled this letter as "replying to letter of May 24."

From John Reynolds

Belleville October 6th. 1831.

Sir,

Some time since I had the honor of receiving your Letter dated August 31st. ult., containing a "request" on me to obtain and transmit certain information to the Genl. Government before the meeting of Congress. Immediately on the receipt of your Letter I sent an express & employed a talented Lawyer to attend to the business. All the information within my reach on the subject mentioned in your Letter shall be forwarded to you, before the meeting of Congress.[1] Every thing in my power shall be done to enable the Patriotic Citizens of Illinois to procure their pay, for their praiseworthy services rendered last Summer on the requisition of the United States.

I will cause to be sent to the Genl. Government copies of a Resolution of the General Assembly of this State, passed at the last Session thereof, and other accompanying documents, all shedding light on this subject.[2]

This Resolution alone ought to satisfy all who would read it, on the subject of which you request information.

I deem it proper to mention: that the expense of procuring this information requested by you, will be paid by the United States; and accordingly I have employed the Agent on the part of the General Government. With esteem I have the honor to be your Obdt. Servt.

John Reynolds.

LC, I-Ar (18-0893). *Illinois Governors' Letter-Books*, 1:187–88. ALS draft, I-Ar (18-0931); *Black Hawk War*, 2:162–63.

1. Reynolds had appointed Jacksonville lawyer William Thomas (1802–1889) to collect depositions. On October 17 he appointed Springfield lawyer John Todd Stuart (1807–1885), later an Illinois congressman, to assist him (*Black Hawk War*, 2:166). Thomas and Stuart made a report on November 4, which Reynolds sent AJ on November 23 (below).

2. The legislative resolutions, adopted February 5, 1831, asked Congress's aid in requesting AJ to remove Indians from all ceded lands in Illinois and to adopt measures to prevent the return of Black Hawk's band (DNA-RG 75, M234-728).

From David Porter

Buyurdere Octr. 7th. 1831

Respected sir,

The secretary of state will have informed you of my success in obtaining an exchange of the ratified Treaties between the U.S. and this Government and of the difficulties I have had to encounter from the bad faith of the U.S Dragoman, who very nearly succeded in defeating the negociation. It is however happily terminated, and I hope to your satisfaction.[1]

The rapid progress these people are making in military science, induces me to hope, that in a few years they will be able to cope, single handed, with their northern colossean neibour and, by giving full employment to that power, enable the principles of freedom to take a wider range in Europe.

I am on such a footing with the Sublime Porte, as to enable me to assist, and hasten an object, so desirable to the happiness of mankind, without commiting myself or the Government; and at the same time, to assure a new channel for the disposal of the military manufactures of the United States.

The principle thing wanted now, to make the troops of the Sultan equal to other European troops, are arms of a kind superior to those they have, and I am of opinion that our improved military rifle would give them this equality. I have mentioned this to the General in Chief, and he has beg'd me to send for one. I have written to the secretary of state on the subject, and more fully to Genl. Macomb, enumerating some other articles highly desirable.[2] All that is wanting, is your consent that they may be sent, which I have flattered myself will not be witheld. The kindness with which I have been treated by the officers of the Sublime Porte, & their upright honesty in all their transactions with me, entitle them to my highest respect, and I have every reason to think that there is a reciprocity of feeling on their part toward me.

They seem impressed with the belief that I am to be of very great service to them, and this impression I wish to turn to the advantage of my country.

That you may long live to enjoy to blessings of health and happiness is the sincere prayer of your grateful friend and obdt servt.

David Porter

P.S. The speedy departure of Mr. Hodgson, has not left me time to copy or correct this letter.

[Endorsed by AJ:] Commdr. Porter

ALS, DLC (40; 18-0934). Envelope (at January 20, 1832), DLC (40).

1. Nicholas Navoni, an Italian, had been dragoman for the U.S. legation at Constantinople. Porter dismissed him on September 23, explaining to Livingston on September 23 and 26 that Navoni had been disobedient and disrespectful, and that he had attempted to obstruct Turkish ratification of the commercial treaty by fomenting discontent over the U.S. Senate's rejection of its separate and secret article pledging U.S. aid in Turkey's purchase of American-built warships (DNA-RG 59, M46-4). Porter and the Turkish Reis Effendi exchanged ratifications on October 5.

2. Husrev Pasha (d. 1855) commanded the Ottoman army. On September 27 Porter wrote Livingston that he had promised him samples of "the newly invented moveable chamber rifle" and of a U.S. soldier's full accouterments (DNA-RG 59, M46-4). Livingston wrote Porter on April 3, 1832, that the articles would be sent (DNA-RG 59, M77-162).

To Andrew Jackson Hutchings

Washington October 8th. 1831—

Dr Hutchings

I have had a severe indisposition since you left me, from which I have recovered, but have not yet regained my usual strength, but am fast improving.

Your letters were received during my illness, & in the absence of your cousin—on his return I requested him to answer them, which he informs me he has done.

I was much gratified on receiving the report of they professors of your good conduct; nothing can redound more to your credit than a strict attention to, and obedience of the rules of the institution whilst you remain there, and I trust in this, as in all other respects, you will realise my wishes.

They family all unite in kind salutations to you—write me often, and believe me to be, your affectionate uncle

Andrew Jackson

ALS, THi (18-0948).

From John Wilson

Portsmouth 10th October 1831

Sir,

I am happy to be informed concerning the restoration of your health and beg the liberty of laying before you a few more particulars relative to the situation here and the investigation now pending, on the subject of discharging Blacks from the yard & Dock.

Since Mr. Galts fire the authorities of Norfolk have seriously taken up the subject of a permanent night guard, in addition to their watch. Their volunteers have offered to act till the arrangements are completed, & the town have voted to them an outfit. Our town is not able to do this much. But the spirit of the inhabitants is unrivalled; a company of Horse is already nearly completed; a company of Granadiers is proposed to be completed on the anniversary of 19th. Inst. making 5 Companies of vols. for this small place . . . in the confidence that the long wished for discharge of the Blacks will be granted.[1]

Remote from the seat of government of the state and this port being the rival of Richmond & Petersburg, the state may not do anything it may deem supererrogatory for this section of country in which the general government has become so deeply interested.

From the great naval Depot, the public property around & the immense military works here, which bids defiance to open or foreign war, the gov-

ernment will not thence resign itself it is presumed, to a practice that of employing Negroes, which if abandonned would at least be the means of keeping the Volunteer companies filled up, & be the means of more effectually rallying around the whole circuit of public property for its greater security.

If Col. Baldwin had believed Mr Jeffersons opinion that "negroes are inferior in intellects to whites" or that the Blacks would say to the Whites, by their outrages "we will try which can do each other the most harm" he never would have sanctioned or suggested, nay he never would have permitted, the meddling with them . . even to the participation in the Engineer Department as I am informed.[2] His motives were no doubt pure. But as circumstances plainly point out the policy of employing whites alone & such is the *private* wish I will venture to say, of every white labourer he has, likewise it is believed of all his agents, I am confident the Colonel will throw no obstacles in the way.

The negroes must necessarily be employed in improvements of individuals or of the states where they belong, but the general government cannot better support their own interest, that of the town which is identified with it, & the authorities or sovereignty of the Slave States, than by employing only, the connecting links, poor Whites, the bone & sinew of the community. The Blacks having committed Aggressions without notice, we shall only be agreeably disappointed if they do not commit them again when confidence is better restored. Freedom alone is not their resting point, either in the south . . the west or the north. They perceive by the preference of the government wherein the poor whites have been degraded by connecting them in work with Blacks or totally rejecting the whites: they perceive on a small scale how they have supplanted the whites in the navy yard & Dock and they are thus encouraged to supplant the Whites on a larger scale . . .

If it were designed to conspire against the interest of government, the town & I may add the state, nothing could be better adapted than to persist in a plan which drives away the poor Whites from here, leaving mostly Negroes & gentlemen to contend for the ascendency. This in fact is not unseemingly the state of affairs in the country around, & the non property holders are disposed to abandon it, at least to come here to look for public work. The farmers planters & country gentlemen, unlike in the good old days of yore, are looking to the towns for residence; the farm slaves being in effect, or measurably committed to slaves. There is in short, speaking on a general scale, no prospect, there is no security for the interior, but to transport the Blacks! But that can surely be no reason why there should be no stopping place, no asylum for individuals, because there is even a cry of "no danger" till the evil arrives . . . Remember Washington City: there is not always safety where the cry is "no danger." Can there be any reason why the government, if the state will not commence a general diminution of the Evil, should not provide judiciously for the extraordinary Resources

which are established & in progress here. If the state should continue insensible to their growing embicility . . nay if the State dominion should be dissolved which God forbid . . is that any reason why the government should not change its policy & make its possessions here like another Gibralter.

This is the great Southern Depot near the seat of government[.] here is the great national workshop with the branches not yet half established. How necessary therefore that all the measures of the government should tend to the security of its interest. In the language of the Secretary of the navy, how desirable it is to know that "such measures will be adopted as the interest of the government & the rights of the citizen require."[3] I am with the highest consideration of respect & esteem Sir, your Obedt. Servt.

Jno. Wilson

NB I would refer to my letter to the Secy of this date

[Endorsed by AJ:] referred to the Secretary of the Navy that inquiry may be made whether white labourers can be obtained at as low wages, as the Slaves—or whether a sufficient number of whites can be hired to carry on the works at the Navy Yard & Dock. If they can, good policy points out the propriety that they should, as it will strengthen the security of the whites against the apprehended insurrection of the Blacks, A. J.

ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-130). On October 22 Woodbury wrote Wilson, with a copy to Lewis Warrington, that the employment of blacks at the navy yard had been "fully investigated" and that "no such change as that asked for can be acceded to at this time without much increased expense to the government and dangerous delay to the public works." Woodbury remarked that the practice of employing blacks was legal in Virginia, that it had been found "more economical after full experiment," and that its "sudden and entire discontinuance" might compel the government to transfer some work to northern yards. However, "to meet the wishes of the petitioners so far as it can be done without injury," Warrington would be instructed "that a preference should invariably be given to white labourers, when at equally low wages, or when the cost of such labour is as low compared with what it accomplishes. He has also been desired to give prompt and full aid in guarding the town & neighbourhood from any apprehended danger and to furnish assistance on the slightest appearance of insurrection" (DNA-RG 45, M209-7; M149-20).

1. On September 26 a fire had destroyed the Norfolk castor oil mill of Alexander Galt (1793–1855). Arson was suspected. October 19, 1831, was the fiftieth anniversary of Lord Cornwallis's surrender at Yorktown in the Revolutionary War.

2. In Query 14 of *Notes on the State of Virginia*, Thomas Jefferson advanced the "suspicion only, that the blacks, whether originally a distinct race, or made distinct by time and circumstances, are inferior to the whites in the endowments both of body and mind."

3. Wilson paraphrased Levi Woodbury's September 26 reply to a previous complaint about the employment of blacks at the navy yard (DNA-RG 45, M209-7).

From Jacob Gleim

Washington City Oct the 11th 1831

I respectfully represent to his Excellency the President of the United States, that I am in this City a stranger, and entire destitude of Money. I do sincerely hope the President will have the goodness to advance me 10 dollars to take me home. This desire is made known with much reluctance, nothing but complete necessity is the cause. My best wishes to the president that he may long live, and his days be happy and finally at the close of this life, will be taken to heaven to be happy forever[.] Respectfully

Jacob Gleim.
Union Town Frederick County

[Endorsed by AJ:] Furnished him with ten dollars which he has promised to return Octbr. 11th 1831—A. J.

ALS, OhKeUSC (mAJs; 18-0949). Uniontown, Md., was about 65 miles north of Washington.

From Nathan Morse

Washington Octo 11th 1831

Sir,

In the absence of the Secretary of War, I take the liberty to address you in behalf and at the request of a number of the Planters and Inhabitants of Louisiana, on a subject considered by them of the highest importance

The recent and desolating occurrences in Virginia have reminded the Citizens of Louisiana of their defenseless situation and the necessity of being prepared for the worst—against the outrages of a similar population

The object of this communication is to ascertain whether it would be consistent with the arrangements of our Government, to locate an additional number of United States Troops, at, or near New Orleans[.] I have the honor to be with great respect your obedient servant

Nathan Morse

[Endorsed by AJ:] War Dept.—refered to the secretary of war for answer to Major Morse—the object has, the P. thinks, long since been attended to. The commdg. Genl can give satisfaction on this head. A. J

ALS, DNA-RG 108 (18-0951; M1635-2). Morse (1784–1833) was a New Orleans lawyer. General Macomb wrote him on October 12 that in response to previous appeals from state

and city authorities, the Army had already stationed two infantry companies at New Orleans and furnished arms to its militia. Colonel Duncan L. Clinch, commanding at Baton Rouge, had also been authorized to draw troops from the Arkansas or Red rivers for reinforcement if needed (Macomb manuscripts, DLC; DNA-RG 108, M857-1).

From Martin Van Buren

London October 11th 1831

My dear friend

I cannot do justice to the feelings with which I have perused your affectionate letter of the 5th. of September. I did suppose that nothing could have increased the respect & esteem with which your uniform kindness had impressed me; but I find that our seperation has had that effect. It was not until the ocean rolled between us, & until time & opportunity for reflection, had placed before me in strong relief the reasons on which they are founded, that I became fully sensible of their extent and imperishable nature. I have no prayers to offer for your success, because I am fully satisfied, that the wisdom & justice of your measures will of themselves ensure it.

The result of the elections, considering the circumstances under which they have been held, are, what I expected they would be, & afford the most satisfactory & consoling evidence of the soundness of public opinion. Of the result of that for the Presidency there can be no rational doubt, & in addition to the advantage, of securing to the public service, one, who has the means & the disposition of making himself so eminently useful; it will moreover, in the providence of God, serve, to tear the masks from several, who without having been exposed to temptation, might have been able, for a long time to come, to have passed for what they are not. McLean will I have no doubt be the opposing candidate; & I think it will on many accounts be a fortunate circumstance. The only point in the union, in which such a selection, (assuming that the Anti Masons & National Republicans concur in it,) will require particular attention, will be Newyork. My undivided attention will be directed to it, & I shall, from time, take the liberty of suggesting to you the needful. The Democracy of that state is omnipotent with proper treatment, & it shall go hard, if, we do not direct it to a safe, & glorious result. I shall read Major Eatons reply with interest & will be obliged to you for forwarding it to me. I had hoped that he would be allowed to retire from the disgusting contest without the necessity of a further appeal, but he will I have no doubt do his duty, & no more than his duty under all circumstances. Do me the favor to make my kindest & best respects to him & Mrs. Eaton, & assure them that I feel undiminished interest in their welfare. I am pleased to learn that your health is good, & I see by the tenor of your letter that your spirits are also good. May they always be so. I proceed to comply with your request in

regard to the result of Mr Rives negotiation, as that is business of interest to which your attention will have to be directed at the commencement of the session. Although Mr Rives was not expressly authorized to conclude an arrangement upon the subject of the claims, without a previous submission of the French offer to your approval, I am glad that he has done so, as the hazards of delay have thereby been avoided. In regard to the *amount* I have before expressed my views—it is I think entirely satisfactory. The provisions of the Treaty upon the point of preventing future demands upon our Government are equally so. I do not perceive any grounds upon which they could now be predicated. They cannot say that any portion of *their* claims have been set off agt. the *French* claims, because they are specifically provided for by the payment of 1.500.000 francs. They cannot say that a reduction has been made on account of the Louisiana Treaty question, because the ground upon which that pretension has been abandoned by France, is made to rest, upon the reduction of our duties upon their wines; & the reciprocal reduction of their duties upon our long staple cotton. So that their only choice, is, to resist the Treaty, or be forever silent. That they will take that former course, I do not apprehend; & if they do not, I trust Congress will have the spirit, & the firmness, & the justice to compel them to observe the latter. This brings me to the particular point to which you have directed my attention, viz, the stipulation for the reduction of duties, and the possible use which may be made of it by the opposition. Although this matter was first proposed by Mr Rives to the French Government, upon his own responsibility, you will recollect that we referred the subject to Genl. Smith, and that after we rcd. his concurring opinion, we authorized Mr Rives by special instructions, to enter into the arrangement. This will be found in one of my dispatches to him, & confirms to you our recollection of the matter as stated in your letter of the 5th. ultimo.[1] You may rest satisfied that the opposition will not have it in their power to make any thing out of the affair, & they will burn their fingers if they attempt it. There is no pretence, for saying, that the stipulation involves a violation of the constitution, for there is nothing in that instrument, which, either in terms, or by implication conflicts with the exercise of this ~~power~~ authority under the Treaty making power. The restrictions which *this administration* has imposed upon itself, in this respect, are such only as are founded upon *grounds of expediency & a respect for a co-ordinate branch* of *the Government* by whom a particular power, viz the *regulation of duties with a view to* the *protection of home production*, has been heretofore exercised, and in whose hands it is most proper that it should be left. Upon this principle you have said in your public Messages, & in my letter to Genl Van Scholten, that *you will not enter* into any *treaty stipulations conflicting with* the *acts of congress passed for the protection of American productions*; or even occupying the same ground; though they might not actually interfere with existing laws; & from this ground I trust you will

never depart.[2] The stipulations in question, do not, in the slightest degree interfere with that position—but it might be considered as doing so, we refused to enter into any stipulation upon the subject of the *Brandy duties*—all that ~~he~~ Mr Rives was authorized to do, & all that he has done, relates to *French wines*, which are not made in any other country, except France, & certainly not in our own. That there might be no pretence for clamour upon this subject, Mr Rives was expressly directed not to enter into any arrangement, which might interfere even with our Treaties with other powers, by which we stipulate, not to impose higher duties on *their* articles than we do on *similar* articles coming from other countries.[3] This arrangement ~~does~~ can not interfere with those Treaties, because the articles, to which it alone applies are *not* produced in any other Country—it does not conflict with the protection of Home industry by Congress, for we produce no such wines—it cannot be carried into effect without the assent of the Senate; first by the ratification of the ~~duties~~ Treaty, & Congress next, by altering the present rate of duties by law—so that, so far, from interfering with the rights of any branch of the Government, it is only an incipient step towards the consummation of a measure, which requires the consent of every Branch of the Legislative & Executive powers of the Government; & which leaves each to its own voluntary action, in assenting ~~or refus~~ to the project, or refusing to do so, & thereby defeating it. That either of them will take the latter course is not to be anticipated, for the reduction of the duties on the French wines, will not only, be an advantage to ourselves, but the measure was in full progress in Congress, & the Bill reported by Genl Smith, last winter, contained a proviso looking to a stipulation like that which has been made by Mr Rives; & would probably have passed, had I not spoken to Genl Smith & Mr Cambreling not to act upon it then, for fear of its interfering with the use which we have now made of it; & by means of which we have relieved ourselves from a most pressing & important claim—a claim which if it had been left to arbitration, (as was offered to be done by the late administration) might have involved our country in the most grievous, & inextricable embarrassments—please to read Mr Rives original instruction upon this point of the French Claim under the Louisiana Treaty.[4] The manner in which we have gotten rid of this matter, when contrasted with the hazzard, to which the course authorized by Messr Adams & Clay would have exposed the Country, constitutes one of the most valuable features of the late arrangement, & ought to be fairly exposed to the nation, in the papers, Instructions, &c. which will be called for by the Senate, & Congress, & upon which too much attention cannot be bestowed by Mr Livingston. I shall write to him about it, & I wish you would also bear it in mind. Every thing in Mr Rives original instructions which relates to the claims, ought to go before the Senate, & I know of nothing in the subsequent instructions, (although there may be something) which it would be best to with-hold (of all this however you—& Mr

Livingston will best judge & I shall be content). Taken together they will establish useful matters, of which, I can mention the following from recollection—viz 1: They will shew that the reason why the settlement of the claims was so long retarded, was in a great degree, owing, to a *question of form* in which Mr Adams suffered himself to be drawn, viz, that he would not connect the subject of claims, & the Louisiana question together; upon which the matter was kept off by France ever since the year 1822, & which we wisely repudiated. 2dly It will shew the hazard we have avoided, by not following the dangerous course recommended by the late administration, in regard to the submission of the Louisiana question to arbitration. 3dly. It will shew the fallacy of the pretence that the settlement is the result of the change of Government in France—& will moreover afford a tolerably fair view of the reasons, why a reduction from the gross amount of the claims was proper, &c &c. Mr Livingston will be very busy, & if he was to put the matter early into the hands of Mr Trist, I have no doubt he would arrange the papers for Mr Livingstons examination with Judgment and fidelity.

There is but one point in the arrangement about which I have some apprehension. I wrote to Mr Rives as soon as I landed, and requested him to advise me of what he had done. He was absent from Paris, & since his return has sent me a copy of the Treaty &c I shall write him upon the point, to which I am about to allude, & will inform you of the result, if it is material to do so. It is this—by the 7th. article the Treaty the French Government in consideration of the reduction of our duties upon their wines "*abandons the reclamations* which it had formed in relation to the 8th. article of the Treaty of cession of Louisiana"—now I do not know that there is any document which shews what those *reclamations* were—the claim has been viewed in two ~~different~~ aspects viz 1st. a *reclamation* proper *for the remuneration* of the *duties they have paid* & 2dly. the question as to the *future operation* and *construction* of the Treaty. The intention, undoubtedly, is, that they mean to abandon, not only their claim for damages, which is the idea properly conveyed by the term "*reclamation*," but that they also, renounce forever, all claim to exemption, which they have set up, under their construction of the Treaty. Mr Rives will doubtless make some satisfactory explanation of the matter, & may draw from the French Government an avowal upon the point, which might come in good season—to stop the mouths of unruly gainsayers.[5]

One word more upon the subject of the Message. You have taken your ground upon the basis of a strict construction of the Constitution & it is the only true & saving ground. A great portion of your Cabinet although in other respects quite the thing are not altogether in that Sentiment, & without much care on your part, doctrines may be suggested & adopted, which would expose you to the charge of inconsistency. I am lead to this observation by understanding from the Captn. of the Packet, that our good friend McLane intended to recommend a provision authorizing

advances to destitute Americans in Foreign Countries, to enable them to return home. Now although this is justifiable in the case of distressed Seamen, under the powers to regulate Commerce, and provide for a Navy, I know of no authority in the Federal Government to extend that provision to our Citizens at large.

You see that the Reform Bill has been thrown out by the Lords. The excitement here is intense & were it not for the circumstance, that the King, ministers, & people, are all on the same side, & constitute 19⁄20ths. of the nation, would be truly appalling. as it is, I believe a civil commotion will be avoided, as long as the King & ministry remain firm, and the people retain their confidence in them. When either ceases, this Country will be exposed to a dreadful agitation. I believe every one of the Royal Household, except the Duke of Sussex, (who appears to be a very sincere & clear headed man,) is opposed to the course the King is pursuing, & if he maintains his ground, he will be entitled to great credit.[6] Do me the favor to return my warmest acknowledgments to the Gentlemen & Ladies of your House-Hold for their kind remembrance of me. Ask Mrs. Donelson to remember me to her son, & the young lady whom I shall claim for Master Smith, if he proves worthy of her.[7] Say to Miss Eastin, that I depend upon her good heart & excellent understanding, to keep all things straight at Washington—that she owes me a letter, which I wish she would pay, but that if she asks two for one, I will be most happy to earn the favor of a few lines from her, by writing to her again when ever she gives me permission. I shall keep this letter open until after the Levee tomorrow, & until after I have seen Lord Palmerston, who has requested an interview on Thursday which is the dispatch day.[8] In the meantime believe me to be Very truly yours

M Van Buren

P.S. I enclose you a letter from Sir Alexander Johnston who married a relation of Mr Middleton our late Envoy to Russia & who has been very attentive to me. His son will be in Washington in December, & I know it will give you pleasure to shew him attention.[9] Our friend Hunter Consul at Cowes too has done all he could to facilitate my movements. I was glad to learn from McLane that his case was not as bad as was at first supposed. You will I am sure do him justice & his friends will ask no more for him.

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr V. Buren confidential—This not to be laid before the cabinett—until the senate acts. A. J.

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (18-0953). AJ replied on December 19 (below).

1. Before writing Rives on November 8, 1830, to approve his idea of linking a reduction in U.S. duties on French wines to France's relinquishment of indemnity claims under the Louisiana Purchase treaty, Van Buren had written Senator Samuel Smith (1752–1839) of

Maryland on October 15, 1830, asking his opinion on it (Samuel Smith Papers, DLC). Smith was chair of the Senate Finance Committee.

2. In 1830 Peter Carl Frederik von Scholten (1784–1854), governor general of the Danish West Indies, had initiated talks with the United States on colonial trade. AJ affirmed his interest on October 13 in an agreement "upon the principles of a just reciprocity," but on November 29 Van Buren rejected Von Scholten's proposal for exclusive mutual trading privileges because it conflicted with other treaty obligations and with congressional authority over tariffs (*Jackson Papers*, 8: 555–56; *SDoc* 21, 21st Cong., 2d sess., Serial 203).

3. Van Buren's November 8, 1830, instructions to Rives included this express admonition (*HRDoc* 147, 22d Cong., 2d sess., p. 41, Serial 235).

4. On January 20, 1831, Samuel Smith had reported a bill (S. 101) to repeal duties on certain imports, including wines of nations granting "equivalent advantage to the United States." It was tabled on Smith's motion on January 31. The French had previously insisted on linking discussion of American spoliation claims with France's complaint of American non-compliance with Article 8 of the Louisiana Purchase treaty, which promised French ships most-favored-nation trading status in Louisiana's ports. The U.S. had rejected joining the two issues, and France had refused the Adams administration's offer to separate and arbitrate the Louisiana matter. On July 20, 1829, Van Buren authorized Rives to arbitrate, if France desired, the question of restitution for past duties on French shipping in light of Article 8, but in no case to accept France's construction of it for the future. Beyond that, Van Buren instructed Rives that, without conceding either French pretensions concerning Article 8 or their equivalence with American spoliation claims, he was to consent to a negotiation "embracing all matters in difference between the two countries" (*HRDoc* 147, 22d Cong., 2d sess., pp. 27–31, Serial 235).

5. Van Buren had written Rives on September 11, and Rives sent him a copy of the convention on September 29. Van Buren wrote again on October 16 querying the ambiguous meaning of "reclamations," and Rives replied on October 22 assuring him that the French had completely and unequivocally relinquished their interpretation of Article 8 and every claim arising under it, past or future (Van Buren Papers and Rives Papers, DLC).

6. The House of Commons approved a bill for parliamentary and electoral reform on September 21 by 345 to 236. On October 7 the House of Lords defeated it on second reading by 199 to 158. Prince Augustus Frederick (1773–1843), Duke of Sussex and younger brother of King William IV, spoke for the bill in the Lords. A later version was enacted in 1832.

7. Smith Thompson Van Buren (1817–1876) was Van Buren's youngest son.

8. Van Buren attended a royal levee on October 12. He reported to Livingston on October 14 that he had spoken with Palmerston about suppression of the slave trade (DNA-RG 59, M30-34).

9. Sir Alexander Johnston (1775–1849), a former colonial official in Ceylon, had married Louisa Izard Campbell (1766–1852) in 1799. She was a second cousin of Henry Middleton (1770–1846), the U.S. minister to Russia from 1820 until AJ removed him in 1830.

To T. Griffin

Washington Octbr. 12th. 1831

Sir,

I recceived to day from the hands of Col Ashton a snuff box embellished with the likeness of Genl Washington, which he informs me you procured for your father, but that his untimely death having prevented his acceptance of it, you have desired it to be presented to me.

I accept, Sir, with lively sympathy in the deep affliction under which you offer it, this valuable token of your ~~esteem~~ respect for my character, and beg you in return to be assured of my best wishes for your welfare and happiness, and believe me to be very respectfully your obdt. Servt.

Andrew Jackson

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr Griffin accepting a Snuff Box Octbr. 11th. 1831— to be preserved in private file A. J

ALS draft, DLC (40).

From James Alexander Hamilton

New York Octr. 12th 1831

Dear Sir

I have only a moment before the mail closes to call your attention to the fact that there have been several meetings in this City and other measures taken to enlist a Corps to serve against Russia & that the same has been done in Philadelphia.

I have thought it proper to call your attention to this subject in order that orders may be given to stop these proceedings They are directly in violation of the Law of Congress Passed 20 april 1818 §6. Gordon *[. . .]* and tend to interrupt the harmony of the two Governments. Should these orders be given before the subject is brought to the notice of the Govmnt by the Russian minister it would give the Government some advantage in such a correspondence

I congratulate you my dear Sir with all my heart upon your restoration to health I fear your indisposition has been more severe than I had believed with very best wishes for your happiness & entire restoration I have the honor to be your friend & obt St

James A. Hamilton

I hope to see you on Sunday or Monday

[Endorsed by AJ:] referred to the Sec. of State, that he may give the proper instructions to the attos. of Philadelphia & New york A. J. Octbr. 14th 1831—

ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-71). The April 20, 1818, law made it a crime to enlist or recruit within the U.S. for foreign military service (*Statutes*, 3:448). Russian chargé d'affaires Baron de Sacken had already written Secretary of State Livingston on August 24 deploring public meetings in New York to organize aid for the Polish rebellion (DNA-RG 59, M39-2). On October 14 Livingston directed U.S. attorneys Hamilton in New York and George M. Dallas in Philadelphia to "make diligent inquiry" and prosecute any violators of the 1818 law

(DNA-RG 59, M40-22). Dallas replied on October 18 and Hamilton on October 27, both promising a vigorous effort (DNA-RG 59, M179-71).

To Mary Crawford Dunlap

Washington, October 13. 1831.

Genl. A. Jackson, an early acquaintance and friend of Miss Polly Crawford, now Mrs. Dunlap, presents his compliments to, ~~her,~~ and informs her that it is, with great pleasure he learns, through Col. Williams, that she still lives in the enjoyment of good health and happiness. As a memento of his undeviating friendship for Mrs. D, he presents for her acceptance a much valued Snuff Box, which was made and presented to the Genl., by a gallant tar, as an evidence of gratitude for the efficient defence of "Beauty and Booty" before New Orleans on the 8th. of January 1815.[1] The General sincerely regrets to learn that all of Mrs. Dunlaps brothers have passed to that bourne from whence no traveller returns,[2] and begs leave to assure her that the length of time, the nights of toil watchfullness the imminent dangers, and serious privations & vicissitudes through which he has ~~toiled~~ passed have not banished from his mind the endearing recollection of the pleasure he ~~has~~ enjoyed in his boyhood in the agreeable society of herself and her family.

It will always afford him pleasure to recur to those days of his Youth which he spent in the society of her family. The Genl., learning from Colo. Williams that Mrs. Dunlap has a son, begs leave to present, through her, to him a pamphlet and newspaper from which he can discover the true character of some of the ambitious and unprincipled demagogues of the present day, and that those feelings of chivalry which distinguished men of high rank in former days seem to have become extinct in the bosom of some of the late *dignitaries* of the present age. The General desires to be kindly presented to the family of Mrs. D, and must be permitted to tender her the expression of the great respect and esteem which he will always cherish for her.

Draft in George Breathitt's hand with insertions by AJ, DLC (40). Martha Bray Carson, "Andrew Jackson's Snuff-Box," *Daughters of the American Revolution Magazine* 84 (March 1950): 181–84. AJ had known Mary Crawford Dunlap (1767–1845) while growing up in the Waxhaw settlement. They were in-law cousins, her father's brother having married his mother's sister. Mary replied on December 13 (below).

1. AJ sent Mary a silver snuff box given him in 1828 by David Montfort Stokes (1799–1838), then a midshipman on the *Brandywine*. It was a common, though incorrect, American belief that the British army before New Orleans had adopted the watchword "Beauty and Booty" to signify the spoils awaiting on capture of the city. Thomas Williams (1789–1864), husband of Mary's sister Martha, was a South Carolina lawyer and recent lieutenant governor.

2. Shakespeare, *Hamlet*, 3.1.78–79. John Crawford (1778–1831), Mary's last surviving brother, had died on April 21.

From John Randolph

New York ~~Augt.~~ October 13th. 1831.

My dear Sir,

Yesterday, I landed here after a distressing passage of six weeks from Portsmouth. on the morning of my embarkation (Septr. 1st.) I received letters from mr. John R. Clay dated the 1st./13th. of August. He had had an interview with the Vice Chancellor, Count Nesselrode, in the course of which His Excellency said—"You see that at present it is impossible for the Imperial Ministry to examine the proposals of the United States." He afterwards added—"so soon as the affairs of Poland are settled we shall give an answer"—without saying whether the answer would be favorable or not.

I have passed the night without sleep, in a high fever, almost incessantly coughing & expectorating blood. This will induce me, as soon as I am able to travel, to take the most direct & least fatiguing route to Richmond, & consequently to leave Washington on my right; unless it shall be your wish that I should appear there in person. In which case, on receiving the slightest intimation to that effect through the Post office at Baltimore, I shall deem it my duty to attend upon you.

I am glad to hear that your health is quite restored. Believe me to be with the highest respect & regard, my dear Sir, your faithful friend & Servant

John Randolph of Roanoke

[Endorsed by AJ Donelson:] ansd. Oct. 15th. 1831. directed to Baltimore.

ALS, DLC (40).

To the Marquis de Lafayette

Washington City
Octr. 14th. 1831

Dear Sir,

This will be handed to you by Mr. Wm. Ritchie a youth of Va who has lately graduated at the University of that state, and acquired a very promising character both in morals and literary attainments. Being gratified by his parents in his wish to visit France for the purpose of completing his studies, he now undertakes the journey; and I avail myself of the opportunity to present him to your friendly countenance, well satisfied that he will appreciate justly so great a favor and that it will give you pleasure to bestow it.

With sentiments of veneration and gratitude for your distinguished services in the cause of liberty, I remain as usual your well wisher and friend

Andrew Jackson

LS in AJ Donelson's hand, NIC (18-0995). William Foushee Ritchie (1813–1877) was the son of *Richmond Enquirer* editor Thomas Ritchie (1778–1854) and Isabella Harmanson Foushee Ritchie (1789–1865).

From Martin Van Buren

October 14th.

I have had a long interview with Lord Palmerston to day at his own house & at his request. He read to me confidentially two dispatches which he sends to Mr Bankhead by the next Packet the first of which will bring the views of this Government on the Boundary question distinctly & officially before you. The second is an authority to Mr Bankhead to say confidentially to Mr Livingston that if the award is sanctioned by our Government, this, will not refuse to enter into a negotiation for the purpose of making such alteration in the line established by the Arbiter as may upon examination prove to be more satisfactory to the parties & that they will receive and consider any propositions which may be submitted by us in an entirely liberal spirit. This communication to Mr B. & every thing that was said ~~to me~~ between us was in strict confidence & the declaration is intended to possess you fully of the feeling & views of this Government that you may act more understandingly upon the subject. I had before placed before him & Mr Vaughan (who evinces the most friendly disposition) the difficulties we had to contend with in the matter & delicacy of your position in regard to the state of Maine; but without at any time advising him of your opinions or intentions further than to declare your wishes to arrange the matter in the best practicable & most amicable matter. He was entirely satisfied with this course on my informing him that it was regarded as most proper that the first annunciation of your views ought in respect to the Senate to be made to them.[1] I asked him whether his Government would not be willing to have the negotiation precede the decision by ours on the question of the award to which he replied that they could not & stated with great candour & fairness the reasons which compelled him to decline that course. He offered to make this latter communication to me only & leave it to my discretion to make what use of it I thought proper but I advised him to persevere in his original intention. We then had a long conversation upon the affairs of the two Countries in general & concluded by my informing him that as soon as they got through the pressing matters in which in they are now engaged I should want to call his attention to a subject (meaning but not mentioning that of impressment) in which I thought something useful to the two nations could be effected to which he said he would with pleasure devote himself.[2] I saw most of the Cabinet yesterday and was treated by all of them as well as the King & Duke of Sussex with the greatest kindness.

I see by the papers that our instructions to Mr Brent have been successful in inducing Don Miguel to reduce the duties on our rice so as to enable them to compete in the Portuguese market with those of Brazil. Verily verily our labours have not been in vain—you have excellent materials for your message & I hope this (affecting particularly South Carolina & coming on the back of the reduction of the duties on the long staple cotton) will not be lost sight of. You will recollect that it was in consequence of a memorial from Charleston & I believe Savannah presented to Congress & by it referred to you setting forth the exclusion of our rice from Portugal by those prohibitory duties that the instructions to Mr Brent were given & the Decrees of the Portuguese government to which I refer reducing the duties from I think about 50 per Centum to 23 is the consequence.[3] Mr Vail & John wish to be cordially remembered to yourself & family. Yours truly

MVB

P.S. I do not write upon the subject of this note to Mr Livingston. You will therefore please to advise him of its content, of course in the same confidence in which the communications were made to me.

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (18-1000). AJ replied on December 19 (below).

1. AJ submitted the award to the Senate on December 7 (below).

2. Livingston's August 1 general instructions for Van Buren's mission directed him to seek British renunciation of the right of impressment. While "a question of no present importance," if left unresolved it threatened future ill will and perhaps war, and "it is reported that the President considers this as the most important subject connected with your mission" (DNA-RG 59, M77-73).

3. A memorial from the Charleston Chamber of Commerce complaining of prohibitive Portuguese duties on American rice was presented to the House of Representatives on January 13, 1831, followed by later concurring memorials from Philadelphia and Wilmington, N.C. On March 2 the House, on recommendation of its Committee on Commerce, referred the memorials to the president (*HRRep* 115, 21st Cong., 2d sess., Serial 210). On April 28, Secretary of State Van Buren instructed Thomas Ludwell Lee Brent (1784–1845), the U.S. chargé d'affaires at Lisbon, to press for a repeal of the discriminating duties and to warn of retaliatory trade measures by the U.S. in case of refusal (DNA-RG 59, M77-8). Dom Miguel (1802–1866) was King of Portugal. On August 13 his government announced a reduction of the duty on American rice imports to 23 percent, still above the 15 percent charged on Brazilian rice. The U.S. continued to press for a full equalization of duties, which was achieved in 1833.

Memorandum on Henry Cotten's mares

Octr. 15th. 1831.
Washington city

The mares left in my possession by Henry Cotton Esqr. of the Western District of Tennessee, now deceased, were after due notice ~~and with the~~

~~consent of Spencer D. Cotton represented as the Administrator of the estate of said Henry Cotton deceased~~, advertised for public sale at the Fountain of health in Davidson County state of Tennessee on the 30th. of August 1830, and on that day sold, and the proceeds of the sale consisting of notes payable Twelve months after date of sale deposited in the hands of Andrew J Donelson Esqr. for collection. There were three notes taken—one for the Baymare bought by Stockly Donelson, one for her colt bought by Col. Joseph Talbot, and one for the sorrel mare and her sucking colt bought by the undersigned. The whole amount of these notes is Three Hundred and fifty five dollars.[1]

These mares were placed in my possession to breed from on the half shares, and the colts that are here referred to are those which were allotted to the estate of Mr. Cotton according to a division and valuation made by Col Charles J Love & Mr. H R. W. Hill of Nashville Tennessee, agreeably to the appointment of the undersigned and Spencer D. Cotton of No. Carolina[2]

Andrew Jackson

[Endorsed by AJ Donelson:] The Presidents statement of the sale of the Cotton mares—

DS in AJ Donelson's hand, DLC (73). The late Henry Cotten had sent AJ two mares for breeding in 1826.

1. On August 30, 1830, AJ had purchased the mare Bellissima and her filly Lady Nashville from the Cotten estate and deeded them to AJ Donelson's son Andrew Jackson Donelson (*Jackson Papers*, 8:514).

2. Spencer Dew Cotten (1777–1837) of Tarboro, N.C., was a cousin of Henry Cotten. As administrator of the estate of Henry's late brother John, to which Henry had died indebted, he held claim to Henry's assets. On August 11 he had written Donelson asking him to collect and forward the payments coming due for the mares. On this letter Donelson noted his reply of October 7, saying that he would pay his part soon and that William Donelson would collect the rest (Donelson Papers, DLC).

To [Levi Woodbury]

Washington City
Oct. 18th. 1831

Sir,

Please make out a commission for Genl John H. Eaton and Genl John Coffee empowering them to proceed to the Chickasaw and Choctaw nations of Indians to negotiate and arrange with the latter nation for a surrender of Four and a half millions of acres of the tract of seventeen millions laid out and patented to the Indians of that tribe west of the Mississippi. It is of importance that this should be speedily attempted in order that the Chickasaws may move with their elder brethren the choctaws. Without this arrangement there will be no room for the chickasaws

where they desire to be placed, beyond the limits of the choctaws and adjoining them. respectfully yr. sert

Andrew Jackson

LS in AJ Donelson's hand, DNA-RG 75 (M234-136). Copy, DNA-RG 46 (18-1019). On this day AJ appointed Levi Woodbury acting secretary of war in Lewis Cass's absence. On October 19 Woodbury sent Eaton and Coffee notices of appointment that closely paraphrased this text (DNA-RG 75, M21-7). AJ wrote them both on October 23 (below).

From Henry Baldwin

Philadelphia 18 October 1831

Dear Sir

I am now authorised to say to you that Mr Lacock had a full knowledge in the winter of 1818.19 of the confidential letter alluded to (or as he calls it the Johnny Rhea letter) from the highest authority

On the receipt of your second letter authorising me to do so I made application to Col Watmaugh who wrote to Mr Roberts & recived a reply not explicit but from which the inference was irresitible that he had a full knowledge of the contents of the letter—he promised to give the Col a full statement of all the particulars attending it when they met which was expected in a few days.[1] The Col shewed me the letter I then told him that the information was disired by me for the purpose of communicating it to a gentleman with whom I had conversed on the subject and stated my belief that both *Roberts & Lacock* had seen the letter wishing him to write to Mr Roberts state my object to him and ask him if he had any objection to my making this use of his letter The Col wrote accordingly but had received no answer when I went to Baltimore on the rail road excursion & he went on to Washington before my return—it was a subject of too much delicacy for me to press & finding no letter from Col Watmaugh I determined to wait until Mr Lacock came to the Baltimore Convention to which he had been elected and I knew he was to be here as a commissioner of a Canal company.[2]

Hearing of his arrival yesterday I called on him & found him alone after some time I introduced the subject of the Seminole War the proceedings in Congress about it & the controversy about between Mr Calhoun and Crawford & referred to the confidential letter In the course of the conversation he said he had not seen the letter but that during that (session 1818.19.) he had a knowledge of the contents of it in full and of all that had passed in relation to it from the highest authority conversed freely & repeatedly with Mr Calhoun on the views taken by the President himself & the Cabinet & the course of proceeding in the Senate on the subject & then remarked Crawford is right about it. Finding my remarks made in your parlour last winter and those contained in my first letter

on this matter fully confirmed I then remarked to him that in 1824 I had stated to you the course understood to have been adopted in the Cabinet that Mr Crawford had been improperrly censured by your friends for the part he was supposed to have taken & that if anyone had taken an unfriendly part towards you it was Mr Calhoun I observed to Lacock that Mr Crawford had given me this information & then stated to him the conversation between us last winter that for these reasons it was my wish to communicate our conversation to you but that it would not be done without his permission

Mr Lacock replied that he knew of no reason why any thing which took place at that time (1818.19) should be considered as confidential especially after so much had been published about it that Mr Calhoun had written to him on the subject & had his reply in full—he then gave me permission to state our conversation to you which is in substance what is here done—he several times repeated the expression—"yes from the highest authority"

I am much pleased that you are thus able to state the fact of the communication of the contents of your confidential letter to others than the members of Mr Munroes cabinet it did not occur to me to ask Mr Lacock whether he had seen a copy it was my impression from the conversation that he had but I cannot say that any expressions of his were intended to *[convey]* that idea I shall see him again & if a proper occasion occurs will ascertain that fact distinctly

As it was your desire to receive as early information on this matter as possible it has been given at the earliest time if in any future interview with Mr Lacock he should state any thing additional worth mentioning it will be immediately communicated in the mean time it is my wish that unless it is necessary for your own vindication my name should not be used A reference to Mr Lacock & his correspondence with Mr Calhoun and if necessary to Mr Roberts will afford ample means of proving all that this letter contains—probably much more If you wish me to have any more particular conversation with Mr Lacock I will do it—this has been our first conversation on the Seminole war for many years he spoke about the matter without any feeling said much about you but nothing personal or harsh confining his objections to your reelection entirely to political considerations I am sure he would not decline any information from any impulse of personal hostility to yourself or political attachment to Mr Clay as to any matter between you and Mr Calhoun he appears under no biass—yours with esteem

Henry Baldwin

[Endorsed by AJ:] octbr. 18th. 1831

ALS, DLC (40). AJ wrote Baldwin on October 31 (below).

1. John Goddard Watmough (1793–1861) was a Pennsylvania congressman. Abner Lacock had been AJ's principal Senate accuser and Jonathan Roberts (1771–1854) had been Pennsylvania's other senator during the 1818–19 investigation of the Seminole campaign.

2. Lacock had been elected a Pennsylvania delegate to the upcoming National Republican convention in Baltimore.

From John Randolph

Baltimore October 18. 1831.

My dear Sir,

on my arrival here last Evening, the Postmaster, Mr. Skinner, waited on me with your letter.[1] accept my best thanks for your kind indulgence. I am equally sensible to the obliging & friendly manner in which you are pleased to express yourself towards me. I would go on to Washington, notwithstanding your permission to the contrary, if I were not a mass of disease & misery, disgusting to myself &, no doubt, loathsome to others. I shall endeavor to proceed on to Florida in the course of the next month, or the month after.

May I trouble you for information on the following heads, which (as your time is too precious to be unnecessarily consumed) you may cause to be transmitted thro' the Department of State.

1. at what time did my relation to my own government cease to exist?

2. am I entitled to the expenses of my ~~journey~~ voyage home including my servants & freight of luggage?

any balance which may be due me I would be glad to receive by letter of credit on our Bankers in London, as I have occasion for funds in Europe.

Before my appointment Mr. Van Buren was kind enough to furnish me with the English newspapers, as also Mr. Branch. May I ask a continuance of this favour? The papers shall be (as they have been) faithfully returned. My address, for some time to come will be "*Richmond Virginia*."

I write this in bed. I am, Dear Sir, most faithfully Your's

John Randolph of Roanoke

P.S. I have great fears for the Chief Justice. He was not doing well the day before yesterday (Sunday)

ALS, DLC (40). AJ replied on October 21 (below).

1. John Stuart Skinner (1788–1851) was Baltimore postmaster.

To Robert Minns Burton

time I shall prepare something for his christning, as I trust you & Martha will present him to the church in baptism—present to martha my kind salutat[ions] & good wishes for her health & happiness, & believe me your friend

Andrew Jackson

☞ as to a Senator, I know of no change that could do me any good, except Eaton, in whom every confidenc[e] is reposed by me. Eight years may be too long to trust any one unless where real necessity & emergency may require it—no necessity now exists.

P.S. How can you doubt my wishes as it regards Eaton, he is true & faithful to his friends, deceiving none, he would be a great aid to the administration in the Senate where good men & true are wanted—and there is no act of the legislature of Tennessee, that would nail the conspirators to the counter so firmly as their election *now*, of Eaton to come in two years hence

I have no fears of Grundy, nor had the Legislature of New Hampshire of Woodbury, but to resent the insult in the rejection of Hill

This is a good & strong precedent, & none concerned could coplain, none is more beliiked than Woodbury, & in none can there be more confidence placed than was in Woodbury, who was set aside to open a way for the expression of a proper indignation at the insult offered their favorite Hill When you read burn this I have been twenty times interrupted, & have written in haste & on scraps—A. J

ALS fragment, NcD (18-1024). In 1830 the New Hampshire legislature had elected Isaac Hill senator in place of Levi Woodbury, after the Senate rejected AJ's nomination of Hill for second comptroller of the Treasury.

To Robert Minns Burton

(Private)

Washington 20th. Octbr. 1831

My Dr. Sir,

I wrote you a very hasty scrall on yesterday, interrupted by surrounding company & business, that I fear it will not be intelligable, & enclosed you the letter of Mr Rhea, & the certificate of judge overton as you requested & for your own use, not for the public, or a copy to any one as I am preparing a reply for Mr Calhoun, to be used when proper, and if it should not be necessary now, when I bid adieu to public life it will be—you will therefore use only the substance not permitting any to have a copy.

Desha & his party in Sumner, as you say, are harmless, and I am truly astonished at Col Smiths &c course. Mr Burford wrote me pending the canvass, informing me of the falshoods Genl Desha had stated to him, if you see the old Gentleman & name the subject to him, he, I presume, will shew you my reply. I requested him to shew it to Genl Desha, Genl Hall, and Genl Donelson. You will find I did not spare the General, Desha, and I have no doubt opened the eyes of Mr Burford.[1]

I replied to you in mine of yesterday to the enquiry as to the Senator & Governor Carroll—you asked me in confidence & I answered in the same way—as to the Senator no change spoken off could be of service, except Major Eaton could be brought in, and unless, the Legislature acted upon the principles of the Legislature of New Hampshire & would elect Eaton *now* which would give the finishing blow to the conspirators, if this cannot be the election ought not to be brought on, before

AL fragment, NcD (18-1067).

1. AJ had written David Burford on July 28 (above).

To John Randolph

Oct. 21st. 1831.

Dear Sir,

In answer to your letter of the ____ instant in relation to the state of your accounts, I have the pleasure to enclose you a letter from the Secretary of State containing the information requested.

You will perceive from that letter that it has been customary for the Minister to vouch the contingent expenses incurred during the term of his service; and that after his term of service this obligation devolves on the officer having charge of the legation. The reason for this custom is so obvious that I am satisfied you would not allow its application to your accounts to be interrupted.

With the aid of the abstract from the books of the 5th Auditor which accompanies the letter of the Secretary and which is also enclosed herewith, I am in hopes that you will be able to state your accounts and vouch them in the usual form. When this is done the balance due to you can be either remitted to you in a check on the U states Bank at Richmond, or otherwise applied here according to your directions. If you will intimate your wishes on this subject to me, I shall take much pleasure in forwarding them.

Wishing you a speedy recovery of your health, and the enjoyment of every other blessing, I remain, my dear Sir, yr obt. and very respectful sert

[Endorsed by AJ Donelson:] substance of a letter to Mr. Randolph on the subject of his accounts

Draft in AJ Donelson's hand, DLC (40). Randolph replied on October 24 (below). AJ had referred Randolph's October 18 query about his accounts to Livingston, who replied on October 20 with a statement from the fifth auditor's office. According to it, Randolph was entitled to $9,959.71 in salary from the commencement of his mission on June 9, 1830, until he took leave from Prince Lieven in London on July 17, 1831, plus $9,000 for his outfit and $2,250 in return expenses, for a total of $21,209.71. He had apparently been thus far paid $19,458.89. His balance could not be settled until he submitted his accounts, and it would have to be paid in the U.S. in domestic currency. As a concession to Randolph's health, Livingston proposed settling with secretary John R. Clay rather than Randolph for the contingent expenses of the legation since September 30, 1830, the date of Randolph's last accounting (DNA-RG 59, M40-22).

To John Robb

Octbr. 21rst. 1831—

The President with his respects to Mr Robb first Clerk in the War Department, will thank him to inform whether their has been any late advices from Genl Coffee on the subject of the Chikisaw Indians, if so, what is the prospect of obtaining a settlement for the chikisaws within the bounds laid out for the choctaws west of the M. river—has any, and if any, what information from the cherokees, ?are many of them inclined to enroll & emigrate west &c &c.

AN, DNA-RG 107 (M222-30).

From Roley McIntosh et al.

Western Creek Nation
October 21st 1831

To Our Father the President U. S

We have lately had a talk with Mr. McKay the Gentleman you sent to run and lay off the lines between the Creeks Cherokees and Chocktaus in that interview with him we made the following propasitions Viz.

We told him we would except the Territory between the Virdagrise and Canadian and its contents, but in case it should be out of the power of the President to give us that, we then told him we would exchange with the Cherokees and take the lands North of the Virdagrise and with the Arkansas river to Fort Smith then bounded on the North by the State of Masouri and if that could not be done the lands west of the old territorial line we hold by Treaty. Since that we have been informed that the Surveyors intend going up the Arkansas and Canadian how far we do not know above the Territorial line to make up the Seven Millions of acres ceeded to the Cherokees. When our Delegation was at Washington City

in 1830 they then asked for more land knowing that we had not enough[1] Should we get all above the Territorial line and now to have the land between the Arkansas and Canadian taken from us and pushed out in the open Pararia where it would be impossible for us to live, we cannot nor will we ever agree to it Our people have allready settled the country and do not intend to be removed without it is done by force. We have allways taken the advice of our Father. When he told us to come to this country we came with the promise of having an unmolested home having left behind us a country that we loved and where lay the bones of our Fathers and then to be driven into the open Pararia out of Sight of Timber and there to perish it is enough to make our hearts bleed at the thought of it. We know if our Father could with his eyes see our Situation he would say to us you are right and shall have what you ask

Our Father the Sixth article of the Treaty at Washington City the Twenty fourth January 1826 states that the emigrating party shall send an exploring party to View and Select a country which exploring party did select and say that the lands between the Virdagrise and Canadian was the country they selected for the Creeks to settle as will be proven by the cirtaficates of Col. Arbuckel & Doct. Baylor. On the arrival of the first emigrants Col. Brearly thought it best for the people to settle between the Virdagrise and Arkansas as it would be inconvenient to furnish provisions on the Canadian and that it would be too far from the Garrison to render them any aid or assistance against the ravages of the wild Indians Col. Arbuckel also thought it best for the present but as our people emigrated we could then settle it and at this time there is at least one third of our people living between the Arkansas and Canadian.[2] We ask our Father if it would not be hard to drive them from a comfortable home where they have good water and Timber Sufficient for them to a Pararia where certain death would soon meet them no wood no water for their Subsistance. We will not, we would rather meet death here. We claim that country as our right garranteed to us by a Treaty and to give it up we never can for a moment think of it and when we claim nothing but our own we Know the Magnanimity of our Great Father will not Suffer us to be imposed on or Suffer the land to be taken a way from us, we have already invited our Brothers and Friends from the old nation to come and live with us how can we receive them we have very little timbered country now and when that is taken a way from us what shall we say to them we cannot give them our houses and fields no we must say to them there is the Pararia and there you must settle if Col. Brearly the officer of the Government has made a report unfavourable to us we cannot consent to be the Sufferers to our ultimate ruin and destruction we hope our Father will take our Situation into consideration and not think us troublesome when we make so reasonable a request all we want is land Sufficient to live comfortable and raise our children on should there be any land taken above the Territorial line from us our situation will be a bad one antisipating all will

be Settled to our Satisfaction we respectfully submit the Subject for your consideration[3]

Roley McIntosh his X mark
Chilly McIntosh
Fushatchy Micco his X mark
Holthpoer Tustannuggee his X mark
Ispoak Oak Harjo his X mark

[Twenty-three additional signatures follow.]

Done in the Presents of
Jno. Campbell Agent Creeks
Hugh Love
Eli Jacobs C. C. N.[4]
Benj. Hawkins Interp.

DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-237). DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-236). Copy, DNA-RG 46 (18-1123). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 633–35 (Serial 245). Two texts of this appeal were dispatched, one delivered to AJ by Senator George M. Troup of Georgia on December 26 and the other sent by Western Creek agent John Campbell (1777–1858) to Lewis Cass on October 29. Roley McIntosh (c1790–1863) and Chilly McIntosh (c1800–1875) were the half brother and son of Creek chief William McIntosh, who was put to death in 1825 after signing the repudiated removal treaty of Indian Springs. Interpreter Benjamin Hawkins has been widely, though apparently incorrectly, identified as the son of late U.S. senator and Indian agent Benjamin Hawkins. The McIntosh Creeks had emigrated west in 1828.

1. The government had appointed Isaac McCoy to survey western Indian boundaries. Pursuant to the 1828 Treaty of Washington with the Western Cherokees, Eaton had instructed McCoy on April 13 to include within their limits land in the angle of the Arkansas and Canadian rivers extending as far west as was necessary to make up seven million acres overall (*HRDoc* 171, 22d Cong., 1st sess., pp. 56–58, Serial 219). On February 25, 1830, Western Creek delegates Roley McIntosh and Benjamin Hawkins, then in Washington, had complained to AJ that their territory was too small to accommodate new Creek emigrants from the East (*Jackson Papers*, 8:98–105).

2. The McIntosh Creeks had removed under the January 1826 Treaty of Washington, which did not specify their location in the west but promised a homeland "proportioned to their numbers," to be selected by a Creek exploring party from lands unallocated to the Cherokees or Choctaws (*Indian Treaties*, 2:265–66). In 1829 they complained to AJ that the exploring party had preferred lands south of the Arkansas, between it and the Canadian, but that then-agent David Brearley (1786–1837) had steered emigrants north of the Arkansas, between it and the Verdigris, by refusing to supply them on the Canadian (*Jackson Papers*, 7:296–99). Colonel Mathew Arbuckle (1776–1851) was commanding officer at Cantonment Gibson, and John Walker Baylor (1782–1835) was an Army assistant surgeon who had accompanied the exploring party. With this appeal, agent Campbell forwarded letters written by Arbuckle on October 23 and Baylor on October 29, confirming the Creeks' original desire for land along the Canadian (DNA-RG 75, M234-236; *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, p. 633, Serial 245).

3. Lewis Cass replied for AJ on April 14, 1832, that AJ was "well aware of the difficulties" regarding conflicting Indian boundaries in the west, and had recommended to Congress (on February 16, 1832) the appointment of three commissioners to resolve them (DNA-RG 75, M21-8). Congress authorized the appointments by law on July 14, 1832, and AJ made them the same day.

4. Hugh Love (d. 1836) was an Indian trader and Eli Jacobs was clerk of the Creek Nation.

From Martin Van Buren

London October 21t. 1831

My dear Sir

I thank you kindly for sending me Major Eatons expose. It is decidedly the ablest paper of the sort that I have ever read, & I am not surprised at the effect which my letter inform me it is every where producing. Make if you please my best respects to him when you write him, & do me the additional favour to thank Major Lewis for the copy he sent me, & for his obliging letter, which I read with much pleasure, & will be very happy to hear from him occasionally.[1] He will I know excuse me for taking this mode of making my acknowledgments as I am at the moment much engaged, & expect the messenger every moment.

I dined with the King & Queen and a small party, a few evenings since.[2] The dinner was an informal one, & I had much reason to be gratified with the reception which John & myself received. At the table, the King, after a few introductory remarks, in which he stated that it was not his practice, when he had foreign ministers to dine with him, to refer to the relations between his own Country & theirs in the way he was about to do, but that as I was the only minister at table, &c &c, he would take the liberty of expressing, in the form of a toast, his sincere wish that there may be a perpetual & sincere friendship between the U. States & Great Britain—a sentiment which I of course very cordially reciprocated. The ladies, (as is the universal custom here) left us at the table, & on our return to the drawing room we found the Queen, & some of her attendants sitting round a table, busily employed in embroydery. At his request I took a seat with them, and we entered into a long, & on her part, very sensible conversation, of which the habits, productions, and institutions of our country formed the principal topic. I mention these things to you, not on account of their intrinsic importance, but to shew the disposition which exists here to be on good terms with us, & to shew you also that that simplicity, and modest reserve on the part of those who are placed in high stations, for which you are so strenuous & practicable an advocate, is not altogether lost sight of, even in this Country. The anouncing of the prorogation was certainly one of great pomp & parade—to an extent of which we have no idea; but that sort of pageantry, & all its kindred exhibitions, are regarded by the highest orders of ~~the~~ society here, as a part of their business, from which when finished they retire to simplicity & ease for their enjoyments.[3]

Mr Vail & John wish to be constantly kept in your remembrance, & unite with me in their wishes for the preservation of your health. Remember me kindly to all your Household, & to the ladies in particular. Say to Major Donelson that I shall be happy to hear from him as I would also from Col Earle. I owe the latter a letter which I shall pay. I have had his picture framed & hung up prominently & alone in my drawing room.

The messenger has come for the letters & I can only add what I know is unnecessary the assurance of my unalterable respect & esteem

M. Van Buren

P.S. Please to say to our friend McLane that I have no time to write him to day but will do so by the next packet

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (18-1094).

1. Lewis had written Van Buren on September 17, enclosing Eaton's *Candid Appeal* and giving news of political developments and slave insurrection alarms (Van Buren Papers, DLC).

2. William IV's queen was Adelaide (1792–1849), formerly princess of Saxe-Meiningen.

3. On October 20 William IV prorogued Parliament to November 22, to allow reintroduction of the defeated Reform Bill.

Agreement with Benjamin B. Cooper

Received of Benjamin B. Cooper of Newjersey for one fourth part of my stud horse Bolivar the sum of five hundred dollars, ~~and the said~~ witness my hand this 21rst. of October 1831—

This day Benjamin B. Cooper of Newjersey has purchased & paid A. J. five hundred dollars for one fourth part of my high bred stud Horse Bolivar; The said horse is this day sent on to Camden Newjersey under the direction of the said Mr Cooper who is to take charge of him, and stand him for the benefit of the said Andrew Jackson & the said B. B. Cooper, each being entitled to their proportion of his proceeds, & each their proportion of the expence, that is to say the said Andrew Jackson three fourths of the profits & to pay three fourths of the expence & the said Cooper one fourth—the said Horse to be under the controle & management of the said Mr. Cooper, but the said stud Horse Bolivar, is not to be let to mares for less pr. season to each mare than twenty dollars—and otherwise as Mr. Cooper may judge best. A company in New Jersey having agreed for the purchase of said Horse at $2000, it is understood that when the sd. Horse reaches Newjersy, that if the company claim the priviledge, they are to take him at the terms above, if not the said Mr Cooper has the right to take another fourth, at five hundred dollars, and stand him in that case for the joint benefit of the said Andrew & the said B. B. Cooper, and for their joint benefits & at their joint expence, the expence always ~~being~~ to be paid out of his proceeds and the neat profit divided at the close of the season, or so soon as the money is collected. In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands this 21rst. of Octbr. 1831—

[Addendum by AJ:] The Pedigree of Bolivar—set it forth

Bolivar was foaled in the month of September 1825—was six years old last September, is about sixteen hands and one inch high, a beatiful dapled gray of fine bone & sinew, his blood equal to any in america as the stud books will shew referrence being had thereto—he was broke and trained by me at a two year old bid fair to make a first rate runner, was ran the fall after he was a two year old, and from, as it was by his keeper said, the colts distemper took a stoppage in his wind, which prevented him from being attemted to be run after a trial made with him when three years old, when he made an excellent run—

[Addendum by AJ Donelson:] I have certified to the statemt about Bolivar's running, stating that $1200 was offered for him after the race at 3 years old, and that but for the wheezing, I thought he would have made a distinguished runner A J Donelson

AD draft, DLC-Donelson Papers (18-1089). Copy, DLC (40). A pedigree of Bolivar accompanies the draft (18-1079). The copy, not containing the addenda, is certified "a true copy" by Cooper. AJ wrote Cooper on November 7 (below).

To John Henry Eaton

Washington City
Oct. 23d. 1831

My Dear Sir,

Two days since I directed a commission to be sent to you & to Genl John Coffee, authorising you jointly to negotiate with the Choctaws and chickasaws for a country within the Choctaw boundary west of the Mississippi river sufficient for the chickasaws to settle upon. It is important that this should be done before the chiefs of the Choctaws leave their present country in order that those of the chickasaws may have the opportunity of consulting with them and be ready to go with them. As the Choctaws are now commencg to remove it will be necessary for you & Genl Coffee to proceed without delay.

You will find from the commission that you are left unrestricted as to the terms on which you are to obtain this grant from the Choctaws. Your knowledge of the considerations which make it important that the United States should possess this grant and your intimate acquaintance with the intersts of the Indians will enable you to stipulate such a price for it as a proper regard for the situation of the parties will warrant. As to time of payment it will be a matter of much importance to fix it so far ahead that the means can be raised out of the sales of the chickasaw lands, or otherwise out of a revenue that will not interfere with the payment of the national debt. I expect to pay the national debt on the 3d. of March 1833, and wish you to bear this in mind in stipulating for the paymt of the grant

in question from the choctaws.[1] Let the payments of the latter object commence after the 3d. of March 1833 either by annuities to be raised out of the sales of the chickasaw lands or by annuities without any specification of the funds out of which they may be raised

With these views you & Genl Coffee are expected to proceed forthwith with as little loss of time as ~~practicable~~ possible to the choctaw & chickasaw nations and endeavor to obtain from the former a grant in favor of the latter as named in your commission.

With my best wishes for your health & ~~happiness~~ success in this mission, I am vry respctfuly

sd. A Jackson

[Endorsed by AJ Donelson:] copy Mr. Eaton instructions

Draft in AJ Donelson's hand, DLC-Donelson Papers (18-1108).

1. March 3, 1833, was the last day of AJ's presidential term.

To John Coffee

Washington October 23rd. 1831—

My Dr. Genl,

By the administrator of Lt Dumas was your letter forwarded to me from Baltimore where the Lt died with the short illness of two days, supposed with yellow fever—he was taken ill on the Saturday evening that he arrived there, & died on Monday morning, I regret that I had not seen him, but I still hope there is sufficient honesty in your legislature, to prevent the commissioners of the canal fund from squandering it to useless purposes, & you may rest assured, so far as any duty devolves on the executive here, he will perform it, with an eye single to the good & prosperity of your State, & to the public, regardless of consequences.[1]

Two days since, I had sent on a joint commission to Genl J. H. Eaton and yourself, to negotiate with the choctaws & chikisaws, for a country within the choctaw boundery west of the Mississippi river, sufficient for the chickisaws to settle in. It is important, as the choctaws are now, in part, removing that this should be attended to speedily, that the chikisaws may go with them

you will find you are left unrestricted as to the terms on which this is to be obtained, your discretion and the object to be obtained, you are to be governed by, resting confidently that you will get it on as low terms as you can, and stipulating, that the amount to be paid, shall be, by annuities, and that at a distant period, so that the amount can be raised out of the sales of the chikisaw lands; bearing in mind, that I keep in view steadily, the full discharge of the public debt on the 3rd of March 1833, and I wish no debt created that will interfere with the revenue that is to meet

that object, therefore it is, that I wish you & Genl Eaton to stipulate the consideration to be paid the choctaws, to be paid by annuities commences after that date, or to be secured to be paid out of the sales of the chikisaw lands. These lands if added to your land District, can be survayed & brought into markett in all the next year, but if annexed to the Missippi District, may not be brought into markett for several years, unless we can get a survayor Genl with more energy & capacity than the present. We have furnished him with funds to survay the Choctaw lands some time ago, and we have not heard as yet of his having stretched a chain upon it—he is one of Mr Poindex[ter's] men, & has refused to employ any deputies, as it is said, that does not live in the State, therefore it appears, that the public business must be converted into a political, for private views.[2] I will in due time attend to this.

With my sincere prays for the health & prosperity of you and your family, your friend

Andrew Jackson

P.S. I have sent to Genl Eaton a fair copy of instructions, substantially the same as above A. J.

ALS, THi (18-1102). Eaton and Coffee wrote AJ on December 3 (below).

1. Jacob Adrian Dumeste (c1798–1831), an Army engineer overseeing Tennessee River improvements in Alabama, had died on October 10. Baltimore lawyer Frederick James Dugan (1804–1858), administrator of his estate, had found in Dumeste's papers a letter he was carrying from Coffee to AJ and sent it on. The Tennessee River improvements were to be funded from the sale of 400,000 acres granted to Alabama by Congress in 1828. The grant obligated Alabama to commence the improvements within two years and apply the proceeds to no other purpose, on pain of forfeiting the grant (*Statutes*, 4:290). The state had since been criticized for underpricing the lands for sale while not moving expeditiously to begin the improvements.

2. Gideon Fitz was the surveyor for Mississippi and Louisiana, appointed by AJ pursuant to the arrangement proposed by Senator Poindexter on February 15 (above). On July 27, GLO commissioner Elijah Hayward had sent Fitz detailed instructions for surveying the Choctaw cession, to "be commenced as soon as practicable, and vigorously prosecuted," and placed $5,000 at his disposal. Hayward wrote again on October 24, acknowledging legitimate cause for delay but again urging Fitz to begin "as soon as practicable" (DNA-RG 49, M27-4 & M27-5). On November 9, Fitz reported officially to Poindexter that the incompetence of his predecessors and penury of the government had left the affairs of his office in a "deranged *chaos* state," which would require extra clerk help to straighten out and allow new surveying to proceed (*SDoc* 54, 22d Cong., 1st sess., Serial 212). Meanwhile, on October 28 Louis McLane recommended, and AJ approved, allocating $1,000 for additional clerk hire in Fitz's office (DNA-RG 217, 18-1144).

To James Alexander Hamilton

Washington 23rd. October 1831—

My Dr Sir

Inclosed you will receive the report of the first comptroller of the Treasury. His letter to me explains why your former letter lay dormant in his office unnoticed—whether the excuse is a justifiable one, will be enquired into; certainly his clerk requires a reprimand, if not dismissal. I am very respectfully yr friend

Andrew Jackson

[Endorsed by Hamilton:] The President as to Court Rooms Octr 23d.

ALS, NN (18-1112). First comptroller Joseph I. Anderson's office employed fifteen clerks. None was dismissed in 1831 or 1832.

From John Randolph

Richmond Oct. 24. 1831.

My dear Sir,

Your very kind & friendly letter of the 21st. of October was not recd. by me until to day. Nothing was farther from my intention than to suppose, or wish, that any departure from the established rules of the Treasury should be made in the settlement of my accounts with that Department. I have no such arrogance of Spirit—but as in truth nearly the whole consists of the allowance made by law, I thought that the items of postage (not susceptible of vouchers) & of stationery, for which I transmitted the tradesman's receipt, might be passed without my personal attendance although I am ready to give it, if required, ~~although I am~~ impatient as I am to set out for Florida before the winter sets in.

I am most anxious to see you if it were but for one hour: to tell you what I am incapable of writing & what I should be unwilling to put to paper, if I were otherwise circumstanced. Since my arrival, I have heard some things that you ought to know, if you have not been already apprized of them.

I cannot close this letter without calling your attention to the hard condition of our Chargé d'Affaires at St. Petersburgh & at London. These gentlemen have new duties imposed upon them, involving additional expenses, without any means to defray them. I would not be understood as countenancing such abuse as that practised in the case of John A. King; but where, thro' the absence of the minister the duty of Chargé d'Affaires devolves upon the Secretary of Legation *& he is, by the nomination of the President & approbation of the Senate, confirmed in that situation*, surely

he ought to have something more for the additional expense (to say nothing of the additional duties) to which he is subjected, than the Salary of Secretary of Legation, which was previously his own.[1]

I will take leave to call your attention to another subject—I mean our naval discipline. At my instance, the punishment of the lash was abolished in the Army; & if I were in Congress, I should feel myself constrained to bring forward a similar motion in regard to the Navy.[2] I know that common sailors are a very different class of men from our militia men, & will bear what the spirit of these last cannot brook. But the scenes which I witnessed on board the Concord were so revolting, that I made up my mind never to take passage again on board of a vessel of war—at least with a newly shipped crew. The men were raw; some of them landsmen; most of them fishermen (not whalemen—*they* are the best of seamen) utterly ignorant of the rigging, or management of a square rigged vessel. The Midshipmen had to shew them the various ropes &c: the very names of which they were ignorant of, & knew not where to look for them—the lieutenants were worn down performing not their own proper duties only but those of the midshipmen also, who, in turn, were discharging the duties of able bodied seamen. Punishment by putting in irons, & by the *Colt* was continually going on.[3] I do not know whether the *Cat* was used or not, as I always retreated to my state room to avoid the odious spectacle which surprised & shocked my negroe slaves. In seven years the same quantity of punishment would not be distributed among the same number of slaves as was inflicted in a voyage of three weeks from Hampton Roads to Portsmouth. What was done afterwards I know not, having been confined to my room & chiefly to my bed during the voyage from England to Cronstadt.

I congratulate you most cordially on the confusion in the Camp of the Enemy—& remain with every sentiment of confidence & regard, Dear Sir, your most faithful servant & friend

John Randolph of Roanoke

May I ask the favour of you to read my letter to the Secretary of State? of this date[4] My health gets worse every day.

[Endorsed by AJ:] J. Randolph Roanoke answd. 26th. of octbr. 1831—

ALS, DLC (40). AJ replied on October 26 (below).

1. Regular U.S. diplomatic salaries were $2,000 for a secretary of legation, $4,500 for a chargé d'affaires, and $9,000 for a minister plenipotentiary. Chargés and ministers also received one-time payments equal to their annual salaries for outfits. In 1833 Congress made payments to former London secretary of legation Washington Irving and to St. Petersburg secretary John R. Clay for their services as acting chargé: $1,833.85 to Irving for three months after Louis McLane's departure, and $7,200 to Clay for nineteen months after Randolph's resignation. John Alsop King (1788–1867) had been secretary of legation at London when his father, Rufus King, was minister, and had served as acting chargé for two

months in 1826, for which he received $758.15 in prorated salary and a full outfit of $4,500. Jacksonians had censured the payment as excessive and unauthorized by law.

2. A law of April 10, 1812, regarding federalized militia abolished whipping as a punishment, replacing it with pay stoppage, confinement, and deprivation of rations.

3. A colt was a short rope, knotted or weighted.

4. Randolph wrote Livingston on October 24 requesting swift payment of the $1,750.82 due him in salary plus his expenses for postage and stationery (DNA-RG 59, M35-12). Livingston replied on October 26 with an account for the salary, saying he could pay it as soon as he received it back with Randolph's signature, but that settling the contingent expenses would require further documentation (DNA-RG 59, M40-22).

To John Randolph

(Copy)

Washington, October 26. 1831.

My dear Sir,

Your verey friendly and highly esteemed letter of the 24th. Instant, in answer to mine of the 21st., was this morning received. I sincerely regret to learn the continuance of your bad health, and hope that your intended journey to Florida, with change of air, &c. will prove so beneficial to you as to restore it perfectly. Immediately on the receipt of your letter, I sent for the Secretary of State, and read it to him. Our conclusion was, to obviate the necessity of your coming here, that it would be best to send you the accounts made out for your signature, which you will receive, under cover from the Secretary of state, by the same mail that carries this to you. This course will, I hope, meet your views of propriety, as, on the return of the papers with your signature, a check (for the ballance due you) will be fowarded to you payable at the Bank in Richmond or any other point which you may wish and will designate. It would have afforded me sincere pleasure to have seen, and conversed with you on the subject of our Foreign relations, and domestic policy. I must, however, for the present submit and forego this pleasure as your health is of great importance to your Country at the present crisis, and should not be endangered by any journey that may not be regarded beneficial to it. I offer up my prayers for the speedy and perfect restoration of your health, which I confidently hope will be so benefited, by your travelling and spending the winter in the mild climate of Florida, that you will be able, on your return, to afford me the pleasure of seeing you, &c. May I not solicit the pleasure of occasionally hearing from you as to the state of your health, &c. &c.? With sentiments of the highest regard, I am, dear Sir, your sincere friend

(signed) A. Jackson

LS copy in George Breathitt's hand, DLC (40). Randolph replied on October 29 (below).

To Andrew Jackson Jr.

Washington Octbr. 27th. 1831—

My son

I have perused with great interest the letter of Sarah which you have submitted to me. Since my heavy and irreparable bereavement in the loss of My Dr. & ever to be lamented wife, the only object that makes life desirable to me, is to see you happy and prosperous, and permanantly settled in life, united to an amiable wife, of respectabily, & good connections one, whose disposition and amiable qualities, are calculated to make you happy—~~for~~ your happiness will ensure mine, for the few years which I can expect to live. You say, Sarah possesses every qualification necessary to make you happy. The amiability of her temper, and her other good qualities which you represent, is a sure pledge to me, that she will unite with you, in adding to my comfort, during my life—you will please communicate to her, that you have my full, and free, consent that you be united in the holy bonds of matrimony—that I shall receive her as a daughter, and cherish as my child. I find you are engaged, ~~together~~ to each other, the sooner this engagement is consumated the better, both your minds will be more at rest, and if it suits the wishes, & convenience of Sarah, my choice would be, that the nuptials ~~should~~ be celebrated in due time, before the meeting of Congress, as then, I shall want your aid, & it would put it in my power to receive you and Sarah, here, before the bustle of Congress commences.

Present me affectionately to Sarah for altho unknown to me, your attachment to her, has created in my boosom a parental regard for her, that I have no doubt will increase ~~with~~ on an acquaintance[.] I am your affectionate father

Andrew Jackson

ALS, MoSW (18-1140). Addressed to "Mr. Andrew Jackson Jr. present." Sarah Yorke (1803–1887) of Philadelphia married AJ Jr. there on November 24.

From Roley McIntosh et al.

Father

We the Chiefs and Head Warriors of the Creek nation West of Arkansas Territory having met in Council for the purpose of takeing into Consideration such measures as might add to the happiness and security of our nation, have concluded to send you this our talk, which we hope you will communicate to the Great Council of the United States Government when they meet at Washington City in December next

Father—When we removed from the land of our forefathers agreeable to our treaty with the Government of the United States, we left behind

us the bones of those whose memory we held most sacred, the scenes of our youth are still dear to us; and, causes us to regret, that stern necessity and misfortune has driven us into this Western wilderness. We however trust to the vigorous support and protection of the Government of the United States, as was promised in our treaty, and we rely upon the sympathetic feeling of our White Brothers in supporting us when we only ask what is just. We knew we were coming to a land of strangers and that our intended neighbours were Red Brothers who had not received the advantage of Civilization as we and the rest of your Red Children who had resided East of the Mississippi. *These* Wild Indians depend almost altogether upon the chase for support, and their Glory is War. We are anxious to persue a different Course, our object is to cultivate the land, to support our families by our industry, and to preserve peace not only with our white but with our red brothers.

We are however subject to depredations from small Bands of those Indians who live by our Southern and Western frontiers, which keeps us in continual alarm for the safety of our people, more particularly our women and children. These small Bands generally make their attacks at night, and before the alarm can be given their escape is almost certain as they are so well acquainted with the Country.

Father! Our object in makeing this appeal to you is, that we hope you will recommend to Congress to appoint Commissioners with the power of makeing selections of deputations from different tribes West of the Mississippi to hold a general Council, with the view of makeing such arrangements as that Peace may hereafter be preserved amongst the different tribes, and as we are convinced that the success of such an undertakeing depends much upon the selection of those who are to compose the commission we do unanimously recommend our friend Colonel Auguste P Chouteau of St Louis Missouri to be one of the commissioners as we have full confidence in his integrity and knowledge of the tribes, languages, manners Customs &c which qualifies him in a superior manner for so responsible a duty.[1]

Father—This as far as we have been able to ascertain is the general wish of the Creeks, Cherokees and Osages, and we hope that you will listen to the Voice of your red children.

Witness our hands & seals in Council this Twenty ninth day of October 1831—

Roley McIntosh his X mark
Chilly McIntosh
Fush Hatchee Micco his X mark
Cowarcutchee Emauthla his X mark
Hothlepoir Tustenuggee his X mark

[Fourteen additional signatures follow.]

Witness Present
Thos Anthony Actg U S. Sub Ag for Osages
Benjamin Hawkins

[Endorsed by AJ:] recd. 22nd. Decbr. 1831—refered to the Dept. of war
A. J

DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-236). Copy, DNA-RG 46; Copy, DNA-RG 233 (18-1145). *HRDoc* 116, 22d Cong., 1st sess., pp. 2–3 (Serial 219). Secretary of War Cass included this memorial with his February 16, 1832, general report to AJ on Indian removal, which AJ conveyed to Congress the same day. Cass recommended that the three commissioners he proposed to resolve Indian boundaries in the west be also empowered to convene the "principal men" among the Indians, adjust their differences, and make "necessary arrangements for peace and security" among them (*HRDoc* 116, 22d Cong., 1st sess., p. 17, Serial 219). Replying to this Creek memorial and that above of October 21, Cass wrote the Creeks on April 14, 1832, informing them of the progress in Congress of the commissioner proposal (which became law on July 14) and of a companion measure to create a mounted force in the west that would protect Indian emigrants (DNA-RG 75, M21-8).

1. Auguste Pierre Chouteau (1786–1838) was a prominent fur trader and brother of Osage agent Paul L. Chouteau. He was not among the three commissioners appointed by AJ on July 14, 1832.

From John Randolph

Richmond oct. 29. 1831

My dear Sir,

Your truly kind & valued letter of the 26th of October was received yesterday. It found me in a state of too great debility to permit me to thank you for it (as I do most cordially) by return of mail. In truth, since the dreadful night of Monday the 10th. I have been sinking under a disease which has daily grown worse & I find myself at present in more wretched plight than when I landed at New York. I am detained here by the unaccountable non arrival of my horses, for which I wrote the day after my letter to you from N. York, & in due course of mail my letter ought to have reached my overseer on the 21st. My present condition is indeed most pitiable. My fever has not intermitted for three weeks. I think it is erysipelatous, from the eruptions on my body & limbs. My face has fortunately escaped, but the brain pays for it. Enough—indeed, too much—of this.

Be assured that it will afford me great pleasure to communicate with you by letter, during my absence. You will have yourself to blame, after your kind & flattering suggestion on this subject, if you have more of my letters to read than the calls upon your time may render quite convenient. How is it, my dear Sir, that you & the Secretary of state have so little sensibility to my insolence & arrogance in slighting "my official superiors" &

shewing my contemptuous scorn of them? & how kind & generous it is in Mr Walsh & his co-labourers to resent these indignities for you?[1]

In regard to the old Cabinet, I have been greatly deceived in one man, whom I believed to be personally devoted to you. With respect to the others, I never had but one opinion, & that caused me to regret that (with one exception) you were surrounded by such advisers. You & the country (with that exception) are happily rid of them. In regard to their successors, I only fear that Leviathan has too many friends, among them—& not only that monster in Chesnut Street, but the "American system" & internal improvements also.[2] Every man is free to choose his principles—but as these opinions are diametrically opposed to mine, I cannot feel that cordiality towards their supporters (as publick men) which I earnestly desire to extend to all connected with you. But this does not & cannot affect the sentiments of respect & regard with which I am & shall ever be, Dear Sir, your obliged & faithful friend & Servant

John Randolph of Roanoke

P.S. I beg to refer you to my letter of yesterday to Mr Livingston.

ALS, DLC (40).

1. Robert Walsh (1785–1859) edited the Philadelphia *National Gazette*. An October 25 *Gazette* article, and others elsewhere, censured Randolph for not stopping in Washington on his way from Baltimore to Richmond, suggesting that either he had treated AJ and Livingston disdainfully or that his expensive mission had yielded nothing worthy for him to report.

2. Randolph's Leviathan of Chestnut Street was the Bank of the United States in Philadelphia.

From Martin Van Buren

London October 29th 1831

My dear Sir

I am happy to learn that you are well again. Mr Livingstons account of your indisposition gave me much uneasiness. You are certainly a very unaccommodating man, that you so pertinaciously refuse to die to oblige your enemies—poor devils I cannot blame them much, for it is their only chance. I have a letter from that honest man Campbell, in which he gives me a very flattering account of matters & things in general, & particularly of the overthrow, dismay & confusion of your enemies, This is as it should be, & as I was morally certain it would be, the moment public opinion could have a fair chance, by my retirement, & thereby depriving those who drew the wires, of the means of covering their own intrigues, by attributing every thing that was done to my interference, & to your desire to serve me.[1] Severely as I have felt, & feel every hour my seperation from you, I have never for a moment doubted the wisdom of the movement. All must I

think now view it in that light, & so considering it, its privations & regrets, can be borne with complacency. I send you a new edition of Bourienes memoir.[2] I know you have not much time to read, but a chapter or two in this, after you retire from the fatigues & disgusts of the day, will refresh & amuse you. Although evidently written under much ill will towards Napoleon, & doing him without doubt injustice in many important particulars, I am nevertheless satisfied that it gives a more accurate account of the man, and of many public events than has hitherto appeared. At all events it cannot fail to entertain you. It has been purchased for the State Department to which I wish you would send it when you have done with it. I have a long letter from Rives who is distressed, (I think unnecessarily), by some suggestions in Mr Livingstons letter to him in regard to the Treaty.[3] He has doubtless explained himself to you in regard to them, & upon one, viz the stipulation for the reduction of duties &c as a means of relieving ourselves from the Louisiana question, I have written you fully. The other viz whether the amount to be allowed to France is to be paid by our Government to the Claimants, I should suppose there can be no doubt that it ought to do so. Such certainly was my understanding of it. If my friend Kane of Illinois is with you do me the favor to remember me affectionately to him. I know him well, & can with safety assure you that there is no guile in him, & I beg to commend him to your confidence & affectionate regard. Tell him if you please to write me often. This Government had not at three oClock yesterday recd. answers from either the Dutch or Belgians. The latter will certainly, and the former almost as certainly acquiesce. The Dutchman made rather a tart reply to the conference & the English Squadron was in consequence sent to the Scheldt, not to enforce the Treaty but to compel the continuance of the armistice, as I understood the explanation of it which was given to me from ~~the highest source~~. The only possible chance for the Dutch holding out consists in the possibility that they may be secretly encouraged by Russia & Prussia which I have very strong reason to believe is not the case. You see that the possibility of such a state of things has been alluded to in the Courier.[4]

Mr Vail & John wish to be remembered to you. Make my best respects to all your family, & to the ladies of course particularly, not forgetting *Miss* Donelson my beautiful daughter that is to be. I have had but one letter from the Major since I left home, & must beg you to have him Court-Martialed. In haste very truly yours

M. Van Buren

P.S. Since writing the above I have rcd. a letter from Mr Rives, as much of which as relates to business I send to you, & will thank you to preserve it for me. Although the statements he makes do not change my understanding of the instructions, I am heartily glad that he made the Treaty without referring the French offer to you—much might have been lost & nothing gained by the delay. I did as he says encourage him in my private letters to

assume all fair responsibility & relying upon you for support. The explanations upon the other point, fortified as they are by the Kings Speech and the official communication in the Moniteur neither of which I had seen are I think quite satisfactory[5]

Please to remember me most kindly to our excellent & true friend Major Barry & say to him how happy I will be to hear from him occasionally. Remember me also to Messrs Woodbury Cass Taney Blair & Kendall

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (18-1153).

1. U.S. Treasurer John Campbell had written Van Buren on October 4, exulting at the prostration of AJ's political enemies (Van Buren Papers, DLC).

2. Louis Antoine Fauvelet de Bourrienne (1769–1834), once Napoleon's private secretary, published ten volumes of *Mémoires* in 1829–30. Several editions in English soon followed.

3. Rives had written Van Buren on October 25, enclosing a September 26, 1831, letter from Livingston. Livingston praised Rives's success but warned of two likely objections. The provision for deducting French claims from American ones, instead of having the two countries pay them separately, was unclear in its workings; and the article mandating, instead of merely recommending, a reduction in U.S. duties on French wines was likely to provoke jealousy in Congress—needlessly, since Congress had been ready to reduce them even without an equivalent. Rives voiced "great surprise" at Livingston's criticisms and asked Van Buren's help "in setting him right." His official instructions, Rives said, had "expressly authorized" the deducting provision, and to make the reduction in wine duties merely recommendatory instead of binding would have insulted the French and scuttled the whole negotiation, whose aim was to "*definitively*" settle all matters outstanding between the two countries. Rives lamented the administration's weakness in lending credence to objections "that seem to me as light & frail as cobwebs" and said that, had they been heeded, an agreement "would never have been accomplished" (Van Buren Papers, DLC; Rives Papers, DLC).

4. The five-power Conference tendered a treaty for Belgian independence to Belgian and Dutch representatives in London on October 15, 1831. Both declined to sign before consulting their governments, the Dutch protesting on October 17 that some of the terms were new, objectionable, and framed without proper consultation (*Papers Relative to the Affairs of Belgium* [London, 1833], pp. 63–65). The Belgians accepted the treaty in November.

5. Rives's October 22 letter to Van Buren, explaining the meaning of "reclamations" in the treaty, enclosed an official notice from the Paris *Moniteur* in proof of France's total abandonment of its Louisiana pretensions. Rives's original instructions had directed him to accept the deduction of French claims on the U.S. from the American spoliation claims only if the French offered a fair full settlement of the latter, referring any lesser offer to the president (*HRDoc* 147, 22d Cong., 2d sess., p. 32, Serial 235). Rives's letter explained to Van Buren that in his view this language, bolstered by subsequent instructions and private letters, authorized him to accept the 25 million francs and conclude the agreement on his own responsibility without seeking presidential pre-approval (Van Buren Papers, DLC).

To Henry Baldwin

Washington October 31rst. 1831—

My dear Sir

As I am preparing facts for the faithfull historian, and have the most anxious desire that every thing, which I may state for the benefit of the present generation, or posterity, may be truly stated, and as, in speaking of

the Seminole War, it may be necessary to have referrence to my confidential letter, written to Mr. Monroe on the 6th. of January 1818, and allude to the use which was made of it, I have determined to address you this note in consequence of a conversation heretofore had with you on this subject. It may, as I have just intimated, become proper to state, what I understood to be the fact, that this letter was in the hands of Mr Lacock, whilst he was acting as chairman of the Senates committee in 1819, and before he made his memorable report on the Seminole War containing, as it did, from beginning to end a complete tissue of falshoods, misrepresentations, and false colourings. In the conversation to which I have alluded, and which took place in the presence of Mr. Lumpkins and others in my parlour one evening when you called to see me just before the adjourment of the Supreme court, you remarked "that the letter alluded to was in the possession of Mr Lacock at that time as you understood."[1] If this expression was intended not to be used, or spoken of again, it shall be so considered, but, otherwise, I will, with your permission, note it, and at the proper time use it to shew the fact, that the letter, without my approbation, or knowledge, was placed in the hands of Mr. Lacock to be used to my injury. This will also give an indication of the reason which induced Mr Calhoun to bring this letter to the ~~knowledge~~ recollection of Mr. Munroe in December 1818. There is, I am authentically informed, a member of this committee of the Senate, who says, Mr. Lacock had this letter in his possession; but I wish this statement coroborated by your knowledge of the fact. I will thank you for an answer to this, at as early a period after its receipt, as your convenience will permit. I am very respectfully your friend.

Andrew Jackson

ALS, PMA (18-1160). LS draft in George Breathitt's hand, DLC (40). Baldwin replied on November 3 (below).

1. Congressman Wilson Lumpkin (1783–1870) had just been elected governor of Georgia.

From John Donelson

At Camp—Ft. Smith
October 31st. 1831

My Dr. Uncle,

Ten days since I had the pleasure of receiving your kind letter of the 17th. last inst., another instance of your friendly remembrance of me. Amidst the bustle of the world and the multiplicity of buisness with which I know you are crowded—moments devoted to the purposes of private and friendly correspondence should be highly prized. Be assured of my warmest thanks for the *Globe* inclosed to me. The article refered to, in relation to the conduct of three late discharged members of your Cabinet—does honour to the writer and justice to the subject. It is the

clearest, *strait-forward* developement of a villanous and most pusillanimous combination, I ever read. It is so boldly and fearlessly spoken out, and facts so clearly divulged that not a doubt of its truth can be entertained by a rational man. Major Eaton has acted like a *man*, "Truth is mighty and will prevail" and the time must be close at hand when *their* acts will recoil upon *them*,

I would be very glad to have the Globe sent to me. Out of the world, in a manner I neither see nor heare any thing. Some time ago I wrote to Andrew to send it to me—but by some means or other he failed to do so. By the by I have not heard from him in *six* months, except through you.

Tomorrow morning I shall commence meandering the Arkansaw River from this place up to the mouth of the Canadian and thence up that till the cold weather drives me back. I have just arrived here from Union Mission on Grand River, in Canoes with baggage & provision—about 150 miles by water, We will go up in Canoes—no packhorses. Our work lies so scattering and place of procuring provision so remote that we get on more slowly than I could wish. We have had a good deal of difficulty and delay too in getting men to make up our surveying company. We have not been able to get any assistance from the Garrison. Mr. McCoy and family were well when I left them—he is a very industrious persevering man—and one too in whom the govermnent may put every confidence,

This country is in fact but very little known to the government—and perhaps for this reason—no two persons give the same report of it—even those who have seen it—being of such different judgements and tastes. Mr. McCoy is taking every means to inform himself of it fully; and in *his report* reliance may be placed.[1] My health is very fine. My love to Andrew and other connexions. And believe me truly yours

Jno. Donelson jnr.

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr John Donelson arkansa T. wants the Globe Andrew must send it to him

ALS, DLC (40).

1. McCoy submitted a report of his survey on February 1, 1832, to Lewis Cass, who transmitted it to the House of Representatives on March 16 (*HRDoc* 172, 22d Cong., 1st sess., Serial 219).

From "J. M. L."

(fully *confidential*)

Washington Octr. 31st 1831

Sir,

Since the departure of Mrs. Eaton, an intrigue of hers is spoken of, which merits your attention. It appears that shortly after your accession

to the presidency she prevailed on one Bancroft, to go round among the few remaining Creditors of Mr. Wm. Lee late 2nd. Auditor, and prevail on them to sign a petition to you, representing that he would not pay his Creditors, and by this and other means, prevailed on you to reform him in order to make room for her Brother in Law Major Lewis. Willm. Lee becoming very much embarrassed by the introduction of two highly useful branches of Manufactures into this Country took the advantage of the Insolvent Law of the District, and instead of Keeping his Houses Lots &c sold them, and paid 90 pr Cent. of his debts, from 1200 to 1500 $ was annually taken from his salary towards liquidating these debts, so that when he went out of office, he owed but $6000, much of which he has since paid.[1] How ungenerous was it then in Mrs. Eaton, to intrigue against him, with the Crawford faction and misrepresented him to you. There is exhibited in this trait of Mrs. Eaton the blackest ingratitude towards Mr Lee, the best friend of her husband, for whom he entertained the kindest feelings, and whom he defended with effect against the aspersions of his enemies. This was known to Mr. Eaton, and to his wife also.

But this is not all, it was imposing on you. Mr Lee had been a fast friend of yours, a generous talented man of considerable influence from his extensive connections, and thirty years of honorable employment at home and abroad. Europe was made acquainted with your character and services from the writings of this Gentleman the latter part of his residence in Bordeaux where his attacks on the British, his eulogies on your conduct at N. Orleans, were incessant, until at last his Essays and his pamphlets, which did him so much credit, caused him to be ordered out of France by the miserable Bourbons.[2] Mr. Munroe, Mr. Madison, & Mr. Jefferson had a high respect for Mr. Lee, and were his personal friends. The latter in one of his Letters to Joel Barlow says, he considered Mr. Lee, as one of the most intelligent and useful agents we had abroad.[3] Mr. Adams and Mr. Lee were never cordial. The active part he took against the Federalists in N. England in 1798 was never forgotten. Are you aware General That the Essays in the Washington Gazette in defence of your conduct in the Seminole War, was written by Mr. Lee, at the express desire of Mr. Monroe, as Mr. Calhoun knew at the time. These Essays were severely attacked by Mr. Noah of New-york in his paper the Advocate, yet Mr. Noah was appointed to office, and Mr. Lee was by a miserable intrigue of Mrs. Eaton (who was afterwards lolling on his arm at all the parties) deprived ~~of his Office. Mr. Lee~~ & turned out of office, and such poor creatures as Mr. Pleasanton, and such inefficient men as Mr. Harrison continued in![4] Then while you did ample Justice in your support of your friend Mr. Eaton, you did an *injustice* to Mr. Lee, who was your friend, when you wanted friends.

These observations are thrown together General, for your government, to open your eyes—you *can* do justice when left to the influence of your own opinions. your friendly, kind support of Mr. Eaton proves *this*. His

exposition of the intrigues of the Calhoun faction, has done much good, and has satisfied *all* parties in the minds of all good men unbiassed by party feelings. Ingham and Branch are completely disgraced, and Mr. Berrian may rest assured he has lost much in the contest—no man is more generally beloved than Mr. Eaton—he possesses every good quality of the heart, and, is not deficient in talents. He has been the victim of the vilest cabal—your support of him does honour to your head and heart.

As I have been, and still continue to be honoured by some consideration from you, I may at some future period make myself known to you as a friend & admirer of Mr. Lee. I always regretted the course you pursued towards him, and knowing the moving secret cause of action in the affair, I have thought it my duty to state it to you, that you may know how much you have been deceived. With great respect, I am, General yr. Obt. Ser*[t.]*

J. M. L.

ALS, DLC (40). William Lee (1772–1840) had been U.S. consul at Bordeaux, France, before being appointed second auditor of the Treasury in 1817. AJ had removed him in 1829 for William B. Lewis.

1. Lee had opened a textile manufactory in Washington in 1817. Many such establishments failed, undercut by British imports. A city lot and house owned by Lee were seized for debt and offered at marshal's sale on December 30, 1820.

2. In 1814 Lee had published *Les États-Unis et L'Angleterre* in Bordeaux. After repeated clashes with officials of the new Bourbon regime, Lee sailed for the U.S. in June 1816, and on July 21 the French minister in Washington, Baron Hyde de Neuville, formally requested his recall (DNA-RG 59, M53-3).

3. Joel Barlow (1754–1812) was an American writer and diplomat.

4. The *City of Washington Gazette* had defended AJ in the Seminole controversy in 1818–1819. Mordecai Manuel Noah (1785–1851), then editor of the New York *National Advocate*, was later appointed New York customs surveyor by AJ in 1829. Stephen Pleasonton (c1775–1855) had been fifth auditor of the Treasury since 1817, and Richard Harrison (1750–1841) had been first auditor since 1791.

From John Henry Eaton

I have to ask one favor! I am now out of the turmoils of the vile & wicked at Washington. Not in my way, they will not consider me to be in theirs. Manifest no concern, *nor speak in support of*, in *defence of*, or in *reference to me* & *mine*. So long as you do—so long as they can surmise that their attacks on me, are matters of interest or concern to you so long they will continue them. If to such things you will merely remark "Eaton is at home with friends who know, & like him & fears nothing they can say," then will assaults cease. *But* never while they can hope or beleve that it gives you pain, or that you are at all concerned, will they cease

tear this up, but please recollect it

AN, DLC (73). Eaton arrived in Nashville on October 24.

November

To John Wilson Campbell

Washington November 1rst. 1831—

Dear Sir,

Judge Haywood has shewn me your letter to him of the 5th. ultimo; and I must confess myself astonished at its contents. I must believe that the conclusions to which you have arrived was formed without seeing or duly considering both sides of the question to which it refers.

In consequence of the high estimation in which I have held your character, and an unwillingness that you should be deceived, I enclose you Major Eatons appeal to the public, with the single remark that the causes assigned by Ingham, Branch and Berrien for the dissolution of my cabinet, are positively untrue, and known by them to be so. But what better could be expected of men, who could come into my Cabinet with *apparent* harmony and friendship for Major Eaton, (Berrien & Branch being recommended by Major Eaton and seemingly possessing the utmost good feelings for him) and at the same time, *covertly designing*, as they have shewn since their resignations *the removal of Major Eaton?* It is fortunate for myself, and country, that *I am relieved of these men*. Col. Johnston statement to which you have alluded, contains, so far as I am concerned, or informed, the truth, and nothing but the truth; and I cannot therefore suppose, that it will, as you intimate, opperate to his disadvantage.[1] The *assertion of truth*, should prejudice no one. I also send the globe of the 7th. ult. which will furnish you with a further specimen of the misrepresentation which seems to characterise the movements of certain aspirants to popular favour.[2] It is a lamentable fact that ambition too often makes men forget, or violate the principles of honor. As relates to the Post office Department, I can assure you, that it is well conducted under the management of Major Barry, whose talents and extensive attainments are equal to the highly important and responsible duties of his Station. In all appointments, good and true men are selected, unless the head of the Department is deceived by the recommendations of those in whom he must place confidence[.] I am very respectfully yr most obdt. servt.

Andrew Jackson

ALS, Anonymous (37-0510). LS draft, DLC (40). Campbell (1782–1833), a former Ohio congressman, was appointed federal district judge for Ohio by AJ in 1829. He had written

GLO commissioner Elijah Hayward on September 5, complaining that Barry's negligence in filling postal vacancies incurred "the censure of *all*" and that through it and the Cabinet affair AJ had probably "lost Ohio irrecoverably and forever." Campbell opined that AJ might "reinstate himself" in public favor if he kept his own good counsel and "let Mr. Eaton and his wife go to the d—l" (DLC-40).

1. Campbell had remarked that Richard M. Johnson's statements on his role in the Eaton affair "will be of some service to the prest. tho none to himself."

2. On October 7, the *Globe* accused Calhoun of seeking to undermine AJ as early as December 1829, when South Carolina sought AJ's assistance in procuring payment of its claim against the U.S. for reimbursement of state expenses in the War of 1812 (*Jackson Papers*, 7:638–39). AJ commended the claim to Congress in January 1830; but the *Globe* charged that Calhoun had previously attempted to estrange him from South Carolinians by giving out word that he would not, blaming his expected rebuff on Eaton's influence and on AJ's supposed anger at the South Carolina congressional delegation for its refusal to socialize with Mrs. Eaton.

From Wilson Lumpkin

[This document is available only in published form.]

Monroe, Walton County, Nov. 1st, 1831.

Dear Sir:—

The personal regard and political confidence which I have ever entertained for your character induces me to make this communication. Before this reaches you, you will have been apprised of the public position assigned me by the voice of the unofficial sovereign people of Georgia. I have been called to this station contrary to my own wishes and contrary to the wishes and efforts of the State politicians, office-holders, office-seekers, lawyers, bank directors, &c. But the wish of the people must be obeyed. I assure you, with entire confidence, that my friends in Georgia *are your friends*. They are so from principle. We must understand each other, and co-operate in all measures for the public interest.

A crisis has arrived in our political affairs, in the Cherokee portion of Georgia, which cannot remain in its present attitude. A remedy must be applied.

This subject is not only of vital importance to Georgia, but *your* character, *mine*, and our common country are, and will be, deeply involved. Your opinions, private as well as public, will be venerated by me as coming from a father.

The extension of our State laws and jurisdiction over the Cherokees has evinced the great difficulty of administering justice to a people circumstanced as the Indians are. A few thousand persons dispersed over a territory of five million of acres of land, abounding in rich gold mines; the people indisposed and incompetent to aid in the administration of the law, presents an anomaly in the history of the world. Any laws which may be devised for the government of this country in its present situation, to be

efficient, must partake largely of a military character, and consequently be more absolute and despotic than would be admissible, or necessary, in a country affording the materials for the administration of civil justice.

The State cannot, with honor or justice to herself, retreat from any of the ground which she has taken. To retrograde, or stand still, will be ruinous. Would it not, then, be more manly and honorable—at once—to place upon the unoccupied territory a virtuous freehold population, possessed of all the inducements of other citizens to maintain order and good government in this country? Carefully, at the same time, guarding, by our Legislature, the rights of the Indians to their entire improvements and property of every kind, together with an ample sufficiency of land to sustain them and their posterity in their present abodes, so long as they may choose to remain.

I consider the present situation of Georgia a most delicate one. Prejudiced enemies, at a distance, may be tolerated and endured; but rest assured I speak advisedly when I say that the enemies of Georgia are alarmingly multiplying in her midst. The gold mines offer a rallying point for the concentration of bad men, from all parts of the world. Even our domestics may look to a controversy with the Cherokees, with feelings of deep interest. And many of our lawyers, judges and other distinguished *selfish men* I have no doubt, begin, now, to look to, and desire a continuance of the present state of things, as affording the best prospect of a rich harvest for themselves.

Please to consider this as a mere hasty sketch of my views, as I have not time to enter fully upon the subject. If consistent with your views of propriety it would be very gratifying, indeed, for me, through some channel, to have a distinct intimation of your views in relation to this subject.

Very sincerely, yr. fr. & huml. servt.,

WILSON LUMPKIN.

Printed, Wilson Lumpkin, *The Removal of the Cherokee Indians from Georgia* (New York, 1907), 1:193–94 (mAJs). Lumpkin had been elected governor on October 3.

From the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

The Memorial of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions respectfully showeth:

That your memorialists, as a benevolent association, were authorized by a letter bearing date May 14, 1816, from the Hon William H. Crawford, then Secretary of War, to the Rev Cyrus Kingsbury, the agent of your memorialists, a copy of which is hereunto annexed, to send teachers & missionaries into the Cherokee nation, agreeably to stipulations made by the United States in treaties with the said Cherokees; to erect build-

ings; to establish schools; inclose lands, & make other improvements, for their accommodation.[1] Your memorialists have felt themselves further authorized and countenanced to proceed in their labors for the welfare of the Cherokees, by the repeated interviews which their agents have been permitted to have with successive Presidents of the United States and the Secretaries of the War Department; also by annual reports of the several Secretaries of War, and the messages of the Presidents, made to Congress from year to year in which the teachers & missionaries have uniformly been mentioned as entering & residing in the Indian country with the approbation of the Executive of the United States; as cooperating with the government and its agents in a benevolent and disinterested work, and as being under its patronage. Your memorialists have been further encouraged by the fact that portions of the fund appropriated by Congress for civilizing the Indians have been annually entrusted to them to expend; and that the annual reports, which the teachers have, on this account, been required to make to the War Department, have been uniformly approved; and also by the decided approbation which has been expressed by officers & agents of government who have visited and inspected many of the stations. Your memorialists have been further assured of the countenance & approbation of the government by communications which they have received from the War Department, extracts from which are hereunto annexed.[2]

Sanctioned & patronized in this manner by the Executive of the United States, your memorialists have proceeded in their undertaking, & during the last fifteen years have erected buildings and made various other improvements at eight stations, at each of which, on the first of May last, there were schools, with teachers and other laborers, sent out by your memorialists; and at all but one of which there were boarding schools and agricultural establishments of a greater or less extent.[3] At these schools more than four hundred Cherokee children and youth have been instructed for a longer or shorter period of time; three quarters of whom have been boarded, and half of whom have received an English education adequate to the transaction of the common business of life. In sending forth & supporting teachers & other laborers, erecting buildings, making fields, providing agricultural implements & household furniture, in boarding & clothing the scholars, and in other ways for the accommodation of the schools and mission families, your memorialists have expended for the purpose of instructing & civilizing the Cherokees, in addition to above $10,000 received from the government of the United States for the same purpose, more than $110,000.

The Teachers and other missionary laborers, continued to prosecute their work unmolested, until January last, when ~~the missionaries~~ those residing at four of the stations, under the patronage of your memorialists, received a communication, containing a law purporting to have been enacted at the last session of the legislature of the state of Georgia, of which the following is an extract.

"And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all white persons residing within the limits of the Cherokee nation, on the first day of March next, or at any time thereafter, without a license or permit from his excellency the governor, or from such agent as his Excellency, shall authorize to grant such permit or license, and who shall not have taken the oath herein after required, shall be guilty of a high misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by confinement in the penitentiary, at hard labor, for a term not less than four years."[4]

The teachers and missionaries believed this law to be an unwarrantable extension of the jurisdiction of Georgia over the Cherokee country; to be contrary to the express provisions of the treaties entered into with the Cherokees, to the intercourse law of 1802, & to the constitution of this Union; & that the enforcement of it would be a gross & oppressive violation of their rights as citizens; and knowing that they were demeaning themselves as good citizens of the United States, they did not feel under obligation to obey this law; but decided to look to the government of the United States, for protection at the stations which they occupied, & in the work which they had undertaken & were prosecuting under its sanction & patronage.

In regard to the meaning of the treaties & laws, & those clauses of the constitution, on which they relied, they were confident, & your memorialists are confident that they could not be mistaken.

In the treaty of Hopewell Nov. 28, 1785, particularly in article 9 it is expressly stipulated that Congress shall have the exclusive right to regulate trade & intercourse with the Indians.

In the treaty of Holston, July 2, 1791 the same stipulations are renewed, more in detail; and especially in Art. 21. a marked distinction is made between being within the Cherokee lands & within the jurisdiction of any state.[5]

In both the treaties above-named provisions were made with special care for preventing white persons intruding on the Cherokee lands, & for punishing crimes & trespasses, committed by citizens of the United States on the Cherokees, or by the Cherokees on citizens of the United States, either by the authorities of the United States, or by the Cherokees, without the slightest allusion to the right of the authorities of any state to interfere in the case, & of course to the exclusion of all such right.

In the treaty of Oct. 2, 1798, the former treaties "are acknowledged to be in full and operative force; together with the construction & usage under their respective articles, & so to continue." It is well known what the construction & usage had been, & what it continued to be till within the last two years.[6]

At the close it is stipulated that this and former treaties shall be carried into effect, on both sides, with all good faith.

In the treaty of Oct. 25, 1805 the first article declares "all former treaties, which provide for the maintenance of peace & preventing crimes, are

on this occasion recognized and continued in force," and additional provisions are made in this treaty, & in that of Oct. 27 for roads & for the free passage of the U.S. mail, & of citizens. This right was purchased by the U.S. of the Cherokees, showing plainly how the two parties understood, & in practice construed the stipulations of former treaties respecting entering the Cherokee Nation, or having intercourse with the Cherokees. State authority or jurisdiction is not named or alluded to.[7]

In the treaty of July 8, 1817 it is again stipulated that the former treaties between the Cherokees & the U.S. are to continue in full force; the United States to have the right of establishing factories, post roads, &c.— no right of jurisdiction or of making regulations respecting trade or intercourse are named or recognized as belonging to the states.[8]

None of these stipulations have ever been annulled or their force impaired either by counter stipulations between the contracting parties, or by construction or usage, or by the failure of the Indians to perform their part. On the contrary, the manner in which they have been construed forty years, by all parties concerned, shows what is the true meaning & how the United States, the Cherokees, & the State of Georgia understood them.

It was moreover expressly provided in the Indian Bill of May 1830, that no part of that bill should be so construed as to authorize measures in violation of any of the treaties existing between the United States and any of the Indian tribes.[9]

The Intercourse law of 1802, especially sections 14, 15, 16, & 17, gives expressly to the Courts of the United States the jurisdiction in respect to all causes arising out of the intercourse of citizens of the United States with the Indians, within the Indian country, to the exclusion of the courts of any state.[10]

But even if the right of jurisdiction claimed by the state of Georgia should be admitted, the teachers & missionaries are confident, as are your memorialists, that they have a right so far as the authority of any state is concerned, to a quiet residence & prosecution of any lawful employment in the Cherokee nation, according to that clause of the constitution of the United States which declares that "the citizens of each state shall be entitled to all privileges & immunities of citizens in the several states."[11]

With the stipulations and provisions of these treaties & of the intercourse law of 1802, before them, with all the light that has been thrown on their meaning by a course of proceedings, based upon them, & continued unvaried through more than forty years, & under the direction of six different presidents, the missionaries were confident, and your memorialists are confident, that they could not be mistaken in their conclusion, that the sole & exclusive jurisdiction over the Cherokee country is vested in the Cherokees; that while residing among said Cherokees they were amenable to no civil or military authority but that of the Cherokees, and that of the United States as specified in treaties; that all interference of the civil or military authorities of the State of Georgia, or of any other

state, would be a gross violation of their rights as citizens of the United States.

But on the 12th of March last, while relying on the protection vouchsafed to them by the constitution of the United States, & by treaties, Mr Isaac Proctor, Rev. Samuel A. Worcester, & ~~Mr.~~ Rev. John Thompson, teachers & missionaries at Carmel, New Echota, & Hightower, were seized by a band of twenty five armed men, with no warrant or civil precept, separated from their families, & forcibly carried to a place called Camp Gilmer, the head quarters of what is called the Georgia Guard. After being detained at this place one day, ~~the~~ two of them were taken before the superior court of the state of Georgia, then sitting in Gwinnett county, & there acquitted, on the ground that the law of the state respecting white residents did not apply to those missionaries & teachers of the Board, who, having received patronage from the government of the United States, were, in a sense, its agents. They were all set at liberty, & returned to the peaceable prosecution of their labors, after having been taken more than a hundred miles, & kept a week absent from their families and under strict guard.[12]

On the 7th of May Dr Elizur Butler, superintendent of the school at Haweis, was arrested and taken from his house by a band of armed soldiers, acting under authority of the governor of Georgia; and after having been carried ten or twelve miles, he was released.[13]

About the end of May, Messrs Butrick, Proctor, Worcester, Butler, & Thompson, received letters from the governor of Georgia, informing them, that if they did not remove within ten days, they would again be arrested. A copy of the letter to Mr Worcester is hereunto annexed, as are also the replies of Mr Worcester & Dr Butler.[14]

On the 23d of June Mr Thompson was again arrested at Hightower, the circumstances of which are detailed in the letters of Miss Fuller, teacher at that station, & ~~a letter~~ of Mr Thompson himself, which also accompany this. Your memorialists request your particular attention to the treatment which this female received from Col. Nelson, the commander of the detachment, and the threatened siezure of the mission house, and what was growing in the fields.[15]

On the 7th of July Mr Worcester & Doctor Butler were again arrested by armed soldiers acting under the orders of the governor of Georgia. The treatment which they received during the fifteen days that they were in the hands of the Georgia guard, and the hardships and dangers to which they were exposed, are detailed in a letter of Mr Worcester, which also accompanies this.[16]

All this the missionaries and teachers under the patronage of your memorialists have been made to suffer while no other crime was proved or charged upon them, than that of being found where the government of the United States had authorized them to go, and quietly prosecuting the work which they were, in the same manner, authorized to perform, & for

which they have from year to year received the express approbation of the executive of the United States. They have suffered this, also, your memorialists would add, from a military force acting under the authority of the State of Georgia, in direct violation of that clause of the Constitution, which forbids any state to keep troops in time of peace. By these troops their labors have been interrupted, their persons siezed, insulted, chained, abused, torn from their families in time of sickness, driven great distances on foot, their feelings outraged, their bodies incarcerated, held by the military, the right of *habeas corpus* denied them, & they at length brought before courts to which they were not amenable, & finally subjected to an ignominious punishment in the penitentiary.[17]

Your memorialists would also further state that the right of property has been invaded. Soldiers under the authority of the State of Georgia, have forcibly ejected the occupants of the mission house at Hightower, erected & owned by your memorialists, and have occupied it for quarters for themselves, in direct violation of that clause of the Constitution which declares that "no soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner."[18] They have appropriated to their own use or destroyed household furniture and other property, and appropriated for food or forage the corn & other vegetables which they found in the fields. They have also asserted a claim to the buildings, improvements, & other property, belonging to your memorialists at other stations, and threatened to eject the mission families.

Having thus presented the grievances which the teachers and missionaries under the patronage of this Board are enduring, and the dangers to which their persons are exposed, your memorialists pray that the arm of the executive may be interposed for their protection and deliverance; that they may be secured in the peaceful prosecution of their labors for the instruction of the Cherokees, unmolested by the civil or military officers of the state of Georgia; that as citizens of the United States they may not be liable to arrest, separation from their families, abuse, & imprisonment by armed soldiers; that if charges are alleged against them they may be brought to trial before an impartial tribunal, competent to the jurisdiction of the case.

Your Memorialists would further pray that the Attorney General may be directed to commence a suit, in the court of the United States against the offending officers of the state of Georgia, for their arrest, false imprisonment, and other injurious treatment of the teachers and missionaries, in violation of the treaties & laws of this Union, and of their rights as citizens of the same.

And your Memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray, pr order of the Board

William Reed
Chairman of Pru Come

DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-775). Copy, DNA-RG 46 (18-1184); LC, MH-H (mAJs). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 641–46 (Serial 245); *Boston Courier*, December 28, 1831. Founded in 1810, the interdenominational American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM) maintained missions both abroad and among the Indians. William Reed (1776–1837), a former Massachusetts congressman, was chairman of its Prudential Committee. Reed enclosed this memorial to Lewis Cass on November 3. On November 14, Cass replied on behalf of AJ that AJ had "on mature consideration satisfied himself" that "the respective States have power to extend their laws over all persons living within their boundaries," that their doing so made federal Indian intercourse laws "inoperative," and that he therefore had "no authority to interfere under the circumstances stated in the memorial" (DNA-RG 107, M6-13; *Boston Courier*, December 28, 1831).

1. Cyrus Kingsbury (1786–1870) had been an early ABCFM missionary to the Cherokees and Choctaws. William H. Crawford had written him on May 14, 1816, approving and promising aid to his plans for Cherokee schools (*HRDoc* 194, 22d Cong., 1st sess., p. 7, Serial 220).

2. Enclosed with this memorial were copies of a July 15, 1818, exchange between the ABCFM and then Secretary of War John C. Calhoun; extracts of a March 2, 1817, letter from Samuel A. Worcester to Calhoun and Calhoun's September 3 reply, enclosing an opinion of President Monroe favoring Indian education; and a Calhoun letter of December 12, 1821, approving an ABCFM missionary report (MH-H; Cherokee Collection, T).

3. The eight stations were Brainerd and Candy's Creek in Tennessee, Creekpath and Willstown in Alabama, and Carmel, Hightower, Haweis, and New Echota in Georgia.

4. This was part of Section 7 of a Georgia law, enacted December 22, 1830, entitled "An Act to prevent the exercise of assumed and arbitrary power, by all persons under pretext of authority from the Cherokee Indians, and their laws, and to prevent white persons from residing within that part of the chartered limits of Georgia, occupied by the Cherokee Indians, and to provide a guard for the protection of the gold mines, and to enforce the laws of the State within the aforesaid territory" (*Acts of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia*, 1830 session, pp. 114–17).

5. *Indian Treaties*, 2:8–11, 29–33. Article 9 of the 1785 treaty granted the U.S. "the sole and exclusive right" to regulate Cherokee trade. Article 6 of the 1791 treaty repeated the phrase. Article 11 (not 21) defined a criminal jurisdiction within the Cherokee territory distinct from that of any state.

6. Article 2 of the 1798 Tellico treaty, *Indian Treaties*, 2:51–55.

7. *Indian Treaties*, 2:82–84.

8. Article 5, *Indian Treaties*, 2:140–44.

9. Section 7 of the May 28, 1830, Indian Removal Act provided "That nothing in this act contained shall be construed as authorizing or directing the violation of any existing treaty between the United States and any of the Indian tribes" (*Statutes*, 4:412).

10. *Statutes*, 2:143–45.

11. Article 4, Section 2.

12. Isaac Proctor (b. 1784) was the ABCFM teacher and catechist at Carmel. Samuel Austin Worcester (1798–1859) and John Thompson (1799–1846) were missionaries at New Echota and Hightower, respectively. Section 6 of the 1830 Georgia law stated that it should not be construed to prevent the Cherokees "from meeting any agent or commissioner, on the part of this State or the United States, for any purpose whatever."

13. Elizur Butler (1794–1857) was the ABCFM physician and catechist at Haweis.

14. Daniel Sabin Butrick (1789–1851) was the ABCFM missionary at Carmel. Governor Gilmer wrote Samuel A. Worcester on May 16, directing him to remove from the Cherokee territory in Georgia or face arrest by the Guard. Worcester replied on June 10 defending his innocence, denying Georgia's jurisdiction, and declaring his intent to stay and pursue his missionary labors. Butler answered similarly on June 7 (Cherokee Collection, T).

15. Catherine Fuller (1801–1868) was the ABCFM teacher at Hightower. On June 23 she wrote Worcester describing Thompson's arrest by Colonel Charles Haney Nelson (1797–1848) and nine men of the Georgia Guard. She reported that Nelson remarked on her

loneliness, promised her "protection," and threatened to occupy the house and consume its forage, claiming them as state property. Thompson wrote on July 1 that he was treated roughly, including shackling at night, while being "dragged fifty miles" and was then set free without explanation (Cherokee Collection, T).

16. On July 18 Worcester wrote an account of the physical and verbal abuse suffered during his arrest, forced march, jailing, and appearance at court (Cherokee Collection, T).

17. Article 1, Section 10, of the constitution says that "No state shall, without the Consent of Congress, lay any Duty of Tonnage, keep Troops, or Ships of War in time of Peace." On September 15, a Georgia court convicted Worcester and Butler of violating the 1830 state law and sentenced them to four years' hard labor. Attorney William Wirt filed for a writ of error on their behalf to the Supreme Court, precipitating the case of *Worcester v. Georgia*. On March 3, 1832, the Court found for the missionaries, declaring that the Cherokee nation was "a distinct community, occupying its own territory, with boundaries accurately described, in which the laws of Georgia can have no force" (31 U.S. Reports 520). Georgia ignored the decision.

18. Article 3 of the Bill of Rights.

From Henry Baldwin

Philadelphia 3 Nov 1831—

Dear Sir

In relation to your confidential letter to Mr Munro in 1818 my reccollection is not from personal knowledge as I never saw it neither have I any personal knowledge of its having been in the possession of Mr Lacock or any of the members of the committee on that subject in 1819.

I was informed then that he had access to all the correspondence on the Subject of the Seminole war including your confidential letters and that the report of the committee of the Senate would disclose many important facts not developed in the discussion which had taken place in the house of Representatives but which would entirely change the attitude in which their vote had placed you before the Nation.[1] The date of the 6 January was not impressed on my mind at the time but my understanding was that the whole of the correspondence public & confidential was before the committee of the Senate by the procurement of Mr Lacock whose friends assumed great merit to him for having discovered what had been up to that time unknown. I have not his report but am confident that he refers to some letters of yours not before published or in any way noticed which shewed that he had other means of information than what were possessed by the committees of the house. I was on the foreign committee and was engaged very laboriously for a month in the investigation of this subject through every source of information before the committee or within my reach—on seing Mr Lacocks report it was unaccountable to me that he should have become possessed of letters which had not been communicated to the committee of foreign relations which is a confidential one or the committee on military affairs which was likewise charged with the same subject. Mr Lacock took up this subject with much warmth & zeal he was very intimate with Mr Munro at that time whose confidence

he possessed in a very high degree it was then & is now my belief that he had a more free access to every source of information than had been had by any member of any other committee to whom this subject had been referred & that he had seen every paper that had passed between you & the President but there is no fact within my reccollection which would enable me to say that he had seen the letter alluded to His intercourse & mine was limited & far from friendly & the Seminole war was a subject on which we could not converse Col Johnson of Kentucky was on terms of intimacy with Mr Lacock at that time it is very probable that he had conversation with him which would give more light on this subject than is in my power to do Mr Lowrie the Secretary of the Senate may have heard the whole matter detailed by Lacock he succeeded him in the Senate in 1819 & was a member when your memorial in reply to Lacocks report was presented as that Report caused a good deal of excitement in our part of the country in the spring & summer of 1819 it would be an interesting matter to Mr Lowrie who would expect to hear some reply to it in the Senate at the next session it would be well for some friend to have a conversation with him on the subject.[2] Jonathan Roberts was then a Senator from this state he was an enragéé about the Seminole war the coadjutor & bosom friend of Lacock acting together on all occasions Roberts has a strong memory especially on all subjects on which he has suffered his passions to take a wide scope as he did on this He must know every thing which Lacock did & have seen every paper which was in the possession of the other and would I think readily communicate it on an application made to him by some personal friend of his own It would not be prudent that he should know that you or any of your friends felt any concern about any matter within his knowledge but as there is probably no person who could give a better account of all the papers which were submitted to the committee or communicated to Lacock I would suggest the propriety of an application to him keeping your name wholly out of view—if you approve of it I will have it done through some person who will know me as the only person interested in the inquiry—the part I took in the Seminole discussion connected with my opposition to Mr Calhoun & his late conduct will be in his mind an obvious reason for my desiring all the information which Mr Roberts can give[3]

I am very happy in hearing of the perfect restoration of your health[.] yours with esteem

Henry Baldwin

ALS, DLC (40). AJ replied on November 7 (below).

1. On February 8, 1819, the House of Representatives defeated, by 100 to 70, Thomas W. Cobb's resolution that AJ's seizure of Pensacola in the Seminole campaign "was contrary to the constitution of the United States." Lacock submitted his Senate committee report condemning the campaign sixteen days later.

2. Walter Lowrie (1784–1868), secretary of the Senate from 1825 to 1836, had followed Lacock as a Pennsylvania senator from 1819 to 1825. On February 23, 1820, Senator Rufus

King of New York introduced a memorial by AJ protesting the Lacock report (*SDoc* 73, 16th Cong., 1st sess., Serial 26).

3. Baldwin had been a Pennsylvania congressman from 1817 to 1822. On February 5, 1819, he gave a speech in the House defending AJ and opposing Cobb's censure resolution.

To William Donelson

Washington Novbr. 5th. 1831—

My Dr. Sir,

My son, some time past communicated to me that Samuel and Alexander Donelson had, with your consent, & John Donelsons, agreed to sell their Lots of land adjoining me, and that he had a great desire to purchase it, it being the family seat in part.

From a letter from Thomas to him recd. to day, I find that Samuel has offerred him his Lot at fifteen hundred dollars, and that you & his brother John are consenting to this sale, and that of Alexanders, at the same price, the payments not named. From the anxiety Andrew has expressed to own these Lots. I am disposed to purchase them for him, and will agree to pay fifteen hundred dollars for each, you & John as guardians consenting; fifteen hundred dollars to be paid, the first day of next april, by a bill drew upon me here, if I did not deposit that sum in the Branch bank at Nashville by the 15th. of March next, and the other fifteen hundred dollars to be paid one year thereafter in the same way. If I sell my cotton, or receive the mony for my Stud horse Bolivar—I would pay the first fifteen hundred dollars at an earlier day, if it was important, and on the receipt of your letter saying that it was the wish of Saml & Alexander, and you & John, as their guardians, were consenting thereto will make arrangements for payment. Surely, the sum offered is a fair price, and if well laid out in lands at a dollar & a quarter pr. acre, as it can be in the Territory of arkansaw, it would be worth ten times the vallue of these small Lots. I wish you to write me on this subject fully, and freely, on the receipt of this letter. I have no wish to purchase myself, but if it will be a benefit to Samuel, & Alexander Donelson, to gratify Andrew, I will on the Terms proposed purchase they two Lots.

I am happy to hear of the fine prospects of cotton crops, but if only half had been produced it would have equally benefitted the producer, from the excess raised over the demand cotton must be low in markett, With my best respects to Elisabeth & all the connection I am very respectfully yours

Andrew Jackson

ALS, DLC-Donelson Papers (18-1201). John Donelson (1807–1879), Samuel Rucker Donelson (1810–1851), and Alexander Donelson (1816–1887) were AJ Jr.'s brothers by birth. "Thomas" was probably their brother Thomas Jefferson Donelson, AJ Jr.'s twin. William Donelson was both the brothers' first cousin and the widower of their late elder

sister Rachel. AJ Jr. had written him on September 9 and October 8 about purchasing Samuel and Alexander's land (37-0425; 37-0429). AJ wrote him again on December 7 (below).

From James Dill

Private

N york Novr 5. 1831

Dear Sir,

A few days since I came from my place in the country. And have discovered that Thomas Morris U States Marshal is an accomplished rogue he is a defaulter of the worst kind. In March 1830 he was a defaulter I came forward and advanced $8800—one half of which I shall loose besides this defalcation Morgan Lewis who is on his Bond. I indemnified my loss will not exceed $11000 in the worst I have never received one cent of the fees of the office. I let them all go for the good of his family. he may commit further crimes before he is removed if so it will all fall on my bond I have advised him to resign instanter. I have fully communicated my views to H Craig Esq who will communicate with you & who I hope may be the successor If I as a deceived and innocent man am to suffer yours with respect—

James Dill

[Endorsed by AJ:] State Dept. referd, came to hand 8th. of Novbr. 1831. Marshall removed & Waddell appointed 7th of Novbr. 1831

ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-16). Dill (1772–1859), of Ulster Co., N.Y., wrote AJ three letters this day about federal marshal Thomas Morris. The second, a more polished version of this one, explained that to save Morris from default Dill had both advanced him $8800 and indemnified Morris's surety Morgan Lewis (1754–1844), a former governor of New York. Dill's third letter charged Morris with appropriating census funds for personal use (DNA-RG 59, M639-16). On November 7 Edward Livingston wrote AJ about Morris (below) and AJ replaced him with William Coventry Henry Waddell (1802–1884). "H Craig" was Hector Craig.

From John Henry Eaton

[This letter is available only in typescript.]

Franklin, 5th Nov. 1831.

My dear Sir,

This morning I received your letter of the 23d Octo. One also from Maj. Lewis. I gladly learn by them, that your health is again restored. Yours is a place of such anxious toil, that every thing of good health is necessary to enable you to get on. The arrival of that time, when with

propriety you can retire from its perplexities and its cares, will be one of pleasure. Your own Hermitage, and its solitude abstracted from even what newspapers say, will open new and happier scenes. For myself I feel like a new man in the little sphere, where now I am placed. I posess a quiet, which belongs not to office. I rest, and am happy, and rising at morn feel, that, standing in the ambitious way of no one, and hence not an object for their envy, and destraction, I have the feelings of a new and regenerated being. I can and do pity those who can seek after office, and power, and place, thro the bye-ways and meanness which aspirants resort to. The highest goal of their ambition, even when attained will but place them on a bed of thorns, hosanned to by those who obtain their favor and patronage, but detested and abused by those who fail to enter successfully for the loaves and fishes of Office. I am very truly yours,

J. H. Eaton

Typed copy, DLC (73).

From John Henry Eaton

Private

5 Nov. 183

I am in hopes you will not in yo
this year have occasion to speak again of the US Ba
seems to me, to be the only matter on which any
to you is to be looked for. The Tarriff even in Ber
hands seems to threaten nothing of danger.[1] You
should be sustained to the extent of articles which ent
with our labor, seems now the adopted policy; &
from articles which we do not produce. Intern
will stand on the footing you have placed it b
Country. The Bank is all that remains

I have endeavored to refute, what you
urge. They say you will place yr. veto on the
it pass. You sanctioned the Cumberland road; & on
taken by you was, that long acquiescence, from Mr J
down, had settled a construction as to a constitution
of this power; and you adopted that constr
saying what might have been your opinion, if
first time it was to be considered.[2] The same
applicable to the Bank, so far as it regards th
right of granting a charter. Its details are
different question. I think myself that the B
not be *rechartered*; yet might not a *new ch*
The one mode would be a monopoly to present

the other would present equal opportunities to
stock: At present the stock is worth 25 p Ct. advan
of the time would swell it probably to 50 per Ct.
is a benefit to the present holders of 50 Cents p
dollar invested, which they, not the public will have
advantage of upon *a recharter*. All that is nec
for your friends to say upon this subject, is to be at
declare, (not for you to do it) that if Congress think
create a Bank under proper limitations & restr
will obtain your approval. Two amendments ought
The Bank should be restrained from ~~bying~~ buying & retaining real
for Banking Houses; & from fixing Branches in a
by consent of the state; and when ever the govt wi
be compelled to grant them, at an interest net
6 per Cent. This might prevent a combination of
during a period of war. Do give me your
n the abstract point of whether to a *recharter*
attach your veto; or would you do so
charter, & leave me to use it as my
y suggest. Yrs

J. H Eaton

Mgr Smith
yr. private letter to me }
e one of yr. Messages
printed. The law about insolvent debtors has failed
ought you not to introduce it again. You might
~~of Congress~~ of the____of____1831 for the relief
debtors to the govt, has failed to secure those benefits
less it was the intention of Congress to afford. In giving
tention, it is necessary to ~~give~~ extend to words their usual
cepted meaning. By adopting this rule, & none *[other]*
ted, the wholesome & benevolent purposes, which it
elieved was the ~~intention~~ design of congress to effect, for
of society, have not been secured. Hence further
necessary. I submit therefore to your discretion
ts with that magnaminity which a governmt owes to
to retain a portion of them liable for debts, where misfortune, &
fraud, has deprived them of the means of paying
hopelessness which such a state of things gives rise
ary a worthy man, to surrender exertion, & become a
society; or else to be driven to the more demoralizing
ntering into business under cover of some friends name
some for his family those little earnings which

ould be taken from him. So where, should the dishonest
dulent ~~debtor~~ receives kindness & sympathy; but
& the unfortunate debtor, it ought never to be

ALS fragment, DLC (75; 18-1204). One side of the manuscript is torn off.

1. The Free Trade Convention that met in Philadelphia from September 30 to October 7 concluded by adopting an "Address to the People of the United States." Submitted by John M. Berrien, it attacked the tariff as unconstitutional and unjust (*The Journal of the Free Trade Convention, Held in Philadelphia* [1831], pp. 31–41).

2. Congress had appropriated funds for the Cumberland Road under every president since Jefferson in 1806.

From Andrew Jackson Coffee

Coxes Creek, 6th November 1831

Dear uncle

Pappa tells me that you requested that I should write you a letter, and let you see how I was learning at school. I am ashamed to write you as I have never wrote but one letter & that was to my brother John at Nashville and I have not practised writing as much as I intend herafter but as you request it I will try and do the very best I can. I have Cypherd though the Single rule of three and reviewed it twice.[1] I read the inglish grammar and studied it over twice. I have been reading geography and studying the maps for some time. I have read the Latin grammer three times and am now reading Historia Sacra the first Latin auther I have read[2]—and will write some every day and will try to learn to write better and then I hope I will not be afraid to write you a letter at any time. Pappa and Mama and we children are all well I hope you are also. Dear Uncle your affectionate and obedient nephew

Andrew Jackson Coffee

[Endorsed by AJ:] A. J. Coffee

ALS, DLC (40). AJ acknowledged this letter to John Coffee on November 20 (below).

1. Andrew's brother was John Donelson Coffee (1815–1837). The "rule of three" is a cross-multiplication lesson.

2. Sulpicius Severus, *Chronicorum Libri duo* or *Historia sacra* (c403).

To Henry Baldwin

Washington November 7th. 1831—

Dear Sir,

Yours of the 3rd. Inst. was duly received, and now permit me to request that you will, if possible, thro' Mr. Roberts, or any other channel, obtain

for me the desired information in respect to my confidential letter to Mr. Munroe of the 6th. of January 1818, having been in the hands of Mr. Lacock, in 1819, as chairman of the committee. your own judgement will be your best guide, to determine the means proper to be employed in procuring the facts in regard to this matter.

It is desirable that this information be had at as early a day as convenient. very sincerely yr friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, PMA (18-1216). Extract from LS draft, *The Collector*, no. 920, 1987 (mAJs). Baldwin replied on November 20 (below).

To Benjamin B. Cooper

Washington Novbr. 7th. 1831—

Dear Sir,

Your letter of the 1rst. instant covering a copy of our written agreement about the stud horse, Bolivar, is recd. The course adopted by you with the company is fully approved. I have no fears of the character of Bollivar suffering, his colts will recommend him whenever seen, and his appearence will improve daily. If a *good turf mare*, is put to him, his merit will be proven by the product on the Turf, and it is my belief, from the performance of my filly in Tennessee, whose blood is the same, and as near a kin as they can be, not to be brother & sisters, their mothers being full sisters, that his offspring will well compeat with that of Henry.[1] I am very respectfully yr most obdt. Servt.

Andrew Jackson

ALS copy, DLC (40). Cooper replied on November 30 (below).

1. Henry (1819–1831) had been a famed thoroughbred racer and sire.

To William T. Mooklar

Washington Novbr. 7th. 1831—

Sir

On the receipt of your letter of the 20th. ult. I referred it to the Secretary of war for his report, & that of the Pension agent. I have now the honor to inclose you his, and the Pension agents report on your case; from which, you will find, that a pension cannot be granted to you agreable to the existing laws, without further proof.

your shortest & surest plan, would be to apply to congress thro' your Representative. I am respectfully yr mo. obdt. Servt.

Andrew Jackson

ALS, DNA-RG 233 (18-1218). Mooklar was a former Army lieutenant, discharged in 1821. On October 20 he had applied to AJ for a disability pension. On November 6 Lewis Cass reported to AJ that Mooklar's application lacked the proof required by law that his disability was incurred "in the line of his duty" (DNA-RG 107, M127-2). James L. Edwards (1786–1867), first clerk in the War Department pension office, had reported to Cass. On January 30, 1832, Ohio congressman William W. Irvin submitted Mooklar's claim to the House. The Committee on Invalid Pensions reported against it on February 15.

From Richard Keith Call

Tallahassee 7th. Nov 1831

My Dear General

I have just received your letter of the 25th. Ult relative to the removal of Mr Wright from the office of District Atty of the United States for the District of West Florida.

The charges you mention as having been prefered against him, if true ought certainly to have lead to his dismissal from office. But we have always under stood the facts in relation to the murdered seaman to be entirely different. If he be guilty of the charges however he merits the punishment, and the circumstance of his being your friend, could not and ought not to paliate the offence.[1]

I see the Globe of the 3d of October announces the appointment of J B Lancaster as Collector of the District of St. Johns vice James Dell deceased. The information you received relative to the death of Col. Dell was certainly incorrect, as he is still alive and attending to his duty. He is an honest man and a faithful public servant. He has always been your warm and devoted friend and the enemy of White, and I doubt not it was from the representations of the latter that Col Dell was supposed by you to be dead. Joseph B Lancaster is known in this Territory to be devoted to Clay and Calhoun, and in favour of any person opposed to you, his appointment would have been most unacceptable to all your friends in Florida.[2]

I have received and read with much attention the address of Majr Eaton which you were so kind as to forward to me, and I have read Mr Berriens reply.[3] Majr Eaton has certainly exposed most successfully the corruption of Mr B and his want of every manly virtue. The latter, stands self convicted of the most palpable falsehood, and his character for truth and chivalry, is equally tarnished. I cannot conceive how any honourable gentleman can consider him in any other light than that of a dishonoured man.

I see Mr Wirt is in the field under the Flag of the Anti Masons. This is the most ridiculous effort of your opponants, and like all other attempts to defeat your reelection, "will return to plage the inventors."[4] You have lost nothing in the South notwithstanding the opposition of Mr Calhoun and the whole Corps of nullifyers. The People are with you, and the disaffected Polititians

AL copy fragment, FTaSA (mAJs).

1. Benjamin Drake Wright (1799–1875) had been U.S. attorney in the western district of Florida, appointed by Monroe in 1824 and reappointed by Adams and AJ. On September 8, naval chaplain Walter Colton wrote AJ charging that Wright had deliberately mishandled the prosecution of a Spaniard for murdering an American sailor, calling Wright "a man of feeble abilities, small legal attainments, and utterly incompetent" (*TPUS*, 24:549–50). On October 24, Wright wrote Edward Livingston from Pensacola asking for the charges against him and the names of his accusers (DNA-RG 59, M179-71). However, AJ had already removed him on October 20. In a November 12 letter published in the *U.S. Telegraph* on November 29, Wright said he had "not even a suspicion of the causes" for his removal, but had been "jocularly" told it was because he did not subscribe to the *Globe*. Wright called his dismissal "a refinement of tyranny—a base and heartless treachery, that ought to cover its authors with infamy and shame."

2. James Dell (1784–1848) was the customs collector at St. Johns. On October 6 the *Globe* reported that he had died and been replaced by Joseph Bradford Lancaster (1790–1856). Lancaster's appointment was withdrawn.

3. On September 24, the *National Intelligencer* published Berrien's September 23 response to Eaton's *Candid Appeal*. Berrien defended his July 22 address on the Cabinet breakup and accused Eaton of multiple falsehoods. He branded Eaton's demands and threats to himself as "idle bravado" and accused him of "a palpable evasion of the combat, which he affected to invite." He included his July 29 letter to Eaton, deferring but not refusing Eaton's July 25 challenge to a duel (*Niles*, October 1, 1831).

4. Shakespeare, *Macbeth*, 1.7.9–10. The Anti-Masons had nominated William Wirt (1772–1834) for president on September 28.

From Isaac Watts Crane

Bridgeton N.J. Novr 7th. 1831—

Dear Genl,

It has been a long time since I troubled you with a communication. I have read the correspondence the expositions of the members of the late Cabinet the proceedings of the antimasonic the anti-tariff & the tariff conventions & occasionally the U.S. Gazette & National Journal to see how the opposition are occupied & to learn their views.[1] Accustomed to view human nature on the bright side of the picture, the "defection of Simpson" has more than astonished me. From a view of the whole premises, one fact appears as evident as any thing in the womb of futurity, viz, that you will be re-elected by the sovereign people & that the ship is destined to ride out the storm in safety. Gratitude to a public benefactor first induced me to espouse the cause of the "Hero of New Orleans." I feel proud that my best feelings early enlisted have been confirmed and received the sanction of my soundest judgment formed from a view of the talent, ability and integrity evinced on the part of your excellency in the course of your administration as President, which has been attended with prosperity at home as well as abroad, in defiance of all that envy & malice & the sordid views of the opposition could effect. New Jersey has saved her distance I think she can do still better, altho we have to contend "with principalities & powers, & against the rulers of the dark-

ness of this world, against wickedness in high places."[2] Southard I have no doubt was anxious to become Governor. He is no doubt grievously disappointed. Vroom is the most honest man & in my opinion is the best qualified for Governor & chancellor.[3] At the last Congressional election we lost votes enough, to have turned the scale, by an imprudent selection. I hope that the party will take a lesson from experience. The ticket should be formed with a view to its success as the paramount consideration. If we act on this plan we will succeed, but if from intrigue or management, men very unpopular in their Districts are selected, what else but defeat can be expected? Many will yield for the sake of the cause, but many will become lukewarm. Many will stay at home & not a few are led in disgust to renounce. Notwithstanding the opposition calculate on New Jersey, I think our prospect for the next year is good. The people of New Jersey have nothing to gain from a change of Administration & the Quakers are generally disposed to let "very well alone."

From what I can learn from the newspapers of the character of the French Treaty, I presume there can be no doubt of its ratification by the Senate. Entertaining this opinion, you will please to excuse me for being thus early to trouble you on the subject. If confirmed, Commissioners will be appointed for settling the claims of our citizens for spoliations. Will your Excellency allow me to put in my humble claims for the appointment. I have from the commencement of the contest been devoted to you with an ardour not surpassed by your most faithful adherents, and amidst the convulsions of party warfare I have remained unwavering in my attachment.

I have become poor in consequence of the support I have given the Democratic Republican party & it is now time for me to expect the party to do something for me in return.

It seems to be the general impression among us, that there either is or soon will be a vacancy in the appointment of Charge d'affaires to Guatemala.[4] If your Excellency should prefer giving me that to the other situation, I would be pleased to receive it. With sentiments of the most profound respect I subscribe myself Your most obedt. & most hum Servt.

I. W. Crane

ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-5). Crane (1773–1856) was a New Jersey lawyer and early AJ supporter.

1. A pro-tariff convention met in New York from October 26 to November 1.

2. Ephesians 6:12.

3. New Jersey governors were elected by the legislature to one-year terms. Peter Dumont Vroom (1791–1873), governor since 1829, had been reelected on October 28. He was defeated by Samuel L. Southard in 1832.

4. William N. Jeffers resigned as chargé d'affaires to Central America on November 19. AJ appointed James Shannon of Kentucky to replace him in January 1832.

From Edward Livingston

Department of State 7. Novr' 1831

Sir

I have the honor to enclose a statement in relation to the Monies placed in the hands of the Marshal of the S. District of New York for the payment of his Assistants in taking the Census. By your Direction I wrote a confidential letter to Mr Morris on the 21. Ocbr. which by course of Mail must have reached him on the 24th. In this letter I stated the complaint that had been made by his assistants and requested to know whether they had been paid—to this I have as yet recd no answer, and disagreeable as the task is I am obliged by duty to report the facts to you for your decision[.] Very respectfully Your Mo Obd Ser

Edw Livingston

ALS, DNA-RG 59 (18-1217). LC, DNA-RG 59 (M40-22). The State Department had remitted New York marshal Thomas Morris $9,156.14 in March to pay his assistant census takers. On September 29, Henry Tappen, brother of Ulster County, N.Y., assistant John Jansen Tappen (b. 1797), complained to fifth auditor Stephen Pleasonton that John had been unable to collect about $800 owed him from Morris, who had used the money "for his private purposes." The Department queried Morris, who replied on October 10 claiming that he had made "an arrangement satisfactory to Mr. T." (DNA-RG 59, M179-71). AJ removed Morris for William C. H. Waddell this same day (18-1221).

From John Randolph

Charlotte C. H. Nov. 8. 1831.

My dear Sir,

I reached this place yesterday morning to breakfast, much benefitted by my journey although still sorely afflicted by the eruption which I take to be scorbutic & not erysipelatous, as I had at first apprehended; although the Physicians pronounce it to be an effort of nature to throw off the morbific matter which they say is gouty & by which I have been sorely tormented for so many years. But let me not harass you with the disgusting detail of my maladies which render me odious to myself & loathsome (of course) to others.

The object of this letter Sir, is to apprize you, that in an address which I made yesterday to my old constituents (it being court day) I took the unauthorized liberty to read some of your private letters to me, one of which was ~~marked~~ headed "confidential" & the others "private"—& all of which from their very nature were to be considered as confidential, as is every private letter & every private conversation between gentlemen. I must therefore throw myself on your clemency as I did on that of my friend Mr. M____ when under circumstances not very dissimilar I read in the Senate his private letter to me in 1826—& say to you, as I then said

to him, that in case I shall have ~~offended~~ incurred your displeasure by this act, there is no reparation that one gentleman can ask & another can give that I will freely & cheerfully make to you ~~in this case~~. It differs however from that of Mr. M____'s letter to it's advantage in this; that I read the letters to subserve your cause ~~rather than~~ & not my own; whereas, in the other instance, Mr. M. had no interest personal, or political, in the disclosure which I made but, on the contrary, might have been drawn into trouble by it.[1]

It is in vain, my dear Sir, to disguise from you or from myself, that there has been a great defection on the part of your supporters in Virginia within the last twelve or fifteen months. Men whom I left your friends I now find not only opposed to *you*, but supporters of Mr. Clay—others who were lukewarm, or indifferent, or undecided, have taken sides against the administration, & in no one instance have I met with defection from the cause of the coalition. one of my firmest & best friends, a man of great wealth, inteligence & influence, I found to my surprise & chagrin an adherent of the Coalition. It is true that he is no longer a resident or, I believe, freeholder of the district, but he is separated from it only by the River James, has ~~grow~~ married children settled in it & possesses a great & (from his character for intelligence & integrity, as well as his large property) a deserved interest not only here but in the adjoining districts & the City of Richmond. It is true that his conversion to "the American System" & to the cause of it's great supporter, Mr. Clay, ~~is~~ has been subsequent to his establishment of a cotton Factory. But there are other instances of a similar sort, where there is no such bias as in this case.

It is due to you also to inform you, that several of your warmest supporter's at the late election, who are your unshaken friends at this time & cannot be detached from you have declared to me in private & in confidence their dissatisfaction at some of the persons, who are believed to be much in your confidence & some of the appointments (particularly of newspaper editors) which you have made. Now as I am entirely ignorant of the characters of these persons, it is impossible for me to form, or to express an opinion: but I cannot conceal from myself & ought not to conceal from you, that a very numerous body of your most respectable & staunch supporters do privately regret, & deeply too, that certain persons, whom I shall not more plainly designate, have, as they believe, habitual access to your person &, as your enemies allege, much influence over your decisions. No great captain ever wished to be deceived as to the real state of his own effective force or that of the enemy. and did I deem so unworthily of you, my dear Sir, as to imagine for an instant, that the truth, however disagreable, would be less acceptable to you than a ~~false~~ flattering, but false representation of the state of your & our affairs & prospects, this letter (as well as some others) would never have been written.

I have not the least apprehension for the fate of the approaching election, although I am firmly convinced that you will have been re-elected

by a diminished majority & my endeavours have been & shall be to swell that majority as far as possible—by detracting from the strength of our adversaries. To this purpose all my efforts were bent yesterday & if I made no converts I confirmed many, very many who were wavering. For this purpose I read your letters to me that your friends might be fortified & your enemies abashed by the noble sentiments & eloquent & powerful language in which they are conveyed—& it is my purpose to publish the substance of that address with some additional matter (compressing the whole into some 25 or thirty pages). Perhaps it may take the shape of a letter to my friend Hamilton, who although (I fear) opposed to us is actuated by very different motives from some of those with whom he now acts. He is a noble fellow.[2]

I think I can make the publication *tell* on the enemies ranks, & I not only ask your excuse for what I have already done, but entreat your permission to publish the letters in question by way of appendix. I will answer that so far from injuring you they will redound to your honour & greatly promote your triumphant defeat of your & our country's enemies. If you have no copies I will submit them (or the originals) to your inspection, that you may be perfectly aware (in case you shall grant my request) what it is that you are consenting to.

Travelling (partly in a carriage & partly on horseback has expelled so much poison from my entrails that I have gained strength enough to propose meeting the freeholders of Buckingham next Monday (14th) at their quarterly court; & as I hear dreadful accounts of Florida, I am half tempted to give up my proposed hybernation there.[3] I would go on to Washington but for a reason that will suggest itself to you with out my stating it. Referring you to a letter to the Secry. of State of this date, I remain, Dear Sir, faithfully Your's

J. R of Roanoke

I keep no copy of this being too much pressed for time. I shall ask for one at your perfect leisure—but do not trust any one to transcribe it unless it be Mr. N. Lufborough, or Mr F. S. Key.[4]

Extract of a letter from N. Macon of N. Carolina to J. R. of R. dated Buck Spring Octr. 28. 1831. recd. this day (Novr. 8th.)

"I purposely omit touching on the letters addressed to the people by the ex-secretaries because I care nothing about their contents. Jackson I hope, ~~will be re-elected~~ unless he changes some of his opinions for the worse, will be again elected. Although I do not approve all his opinions, he is the best we can get."[5]

ALS, DLC (40). AJ replied on November 11 (below).

1. In 1826 Randolph gave a Senate speech in which he quoted an unnamed Virginian's letter to confirm William B. Giles's account of John Q. Adams's desertion of the Federalists in 1807 (*US Telegraph*, April 22, 1826).

2. Probably South Carolina governor James Hamilton Jr. (1786–1857).

3. Randolph spoke at Buckingham County court, where, as reported by the *Lynchburg Virginian* on November 24, he said he had intended to read some of AJ's letters "but had left them in his carriage."

4. Nathan Lufborough (1772–1848) was a Washington justice of the peace and former chief clerk of the comptroller of the Treasury. Francis Scott Key (1779–1843) was a Georgetown lawyer and author of "The Star-Spangled Banner."

5. Nathaniel Macon (1758–1837) had been a North Carolina congressman and senator.

To William Burke

Washington Novbr. 9th. 1831—

My Dr. Sir,

Your letter of 2d instant is just recd. I feel grateful to you for your solicitude for my health, and can assure you it has not been better for many years. I had an attack of the prevailing fever of this place, from which I have entirely recovered, & feel more free from affliction than I have for the last ten years—assure my friends, that providence has, & will take care of me, and that, contrary to the wishes & prayers of my enemies, I will live, just so long, as god wills it, and not longer.

Present my kind salutations to your Lady & accept for yourself my best wishes for your health and happiness. yours respectfully

Andrew Jackson

ALS, Christie's (Forbes sale #5), November 2, 2006 (mAJs). *Cincinnati Daily Gazette*, March 15, 1881. Extract, *Niles*, December 10, 1831 (18-1231). Burke (1770–1855) was the Cincinnati postmaster. His wife was Rachel Cooper Burke (1773–1842).

Memoranda on the Dutch Jewels

Mr Hyggens has no right to make reclamation for Belgium. The Theft if committed was at Brussells = If the privilege of the nobility is correctly stated by him, still the court must decide the facts, that the goods are of the kind thus privileged.

The judiciary, one of the cordinate power, Th*[is]* subject in their possession —*[. . .]* theirs, not the President, or Sec. of *[the]* Treasury, to investigate the facts *[of the]* case. When ascertained, and on petition—pardon or remission can be had.

AN, DLC (40; 18-0380). These notes, on a single sheet of paper, may have been made together or separately, at some time either before or after the Cabinet council on November 9 (below). In his appeal to Livingston on November 5, Huygens made an official claim for the jewels, arguing that they should have been restored as soon as their identity was

established. He stated that in the Netherlands royal property was considered national, "and, consequently, is neither liable to seizure nor subject to the decisions of a court of justice" (*SMisDoc* 127, 31st Cong., 1st sess., pp. 36–40, Serial 563).

Memorandum Book on the Dutch Jewels

Novbr. 9th. Executive Council—Princess jewels—

Decided, that the power of remission was in the Sec. of the Treasury, in this & all similar cases, & the President has no power over cases, which positive enactments, have given the express power of remission of the fines & Forfeigtures to the Sec. of the Treasury. The P. in such cases have no power to ~~enter~~ request, or direct, that a nole prosequi, should be entered—one (Sec. of State) disenting—

AN, DLC (64; 18-1233). An Act of March 3, 1797, gave the Secretary of the Treasury, if petitioned through the district judge, "power to mitigate or remit" any "fine, forfeiture, or penalty" incurred in customs cases and to discontinue prosecutions (*Statutes*, 1:506).

Decision on the Dutch Jewels

Novr. 9th. 1831.

The case of the jewels of the Princess of Orange

The President on a full view of the subject does not believe that his powers extend to it. He regards it as within the scope of the powers granted to the Secretary of the Treasury under the law authorising in certain cases remissions of penalties and forfeitures.

Andrew Jackson

DS in AJ Donelson's hand, DNA-RG 59 (M179-71). On November 10 Livingston communicated AJ's decision to Huygens, advising him to pursue recovery of the jewels through the district court and Treasury secretary (DNA-RG 59, M38-4). On December 5 Huygens again remonstrated to Livingston (DNA-RG 59, M56-1). On December 20 Livingston submitted a paper to AJ arguing that his pardoning power included the right to arrest the proceedings against the jewels, and that justice and diplomatic comity required restoring the jewels to the Dutch government. In a formal opinion of December 28, Taney denied the applicability of the pardoning power, but concurred with Livingston that AJ had authority and duty to discontinue the suit and return the jewels. On or near January 1, 1832, McLane answered with an opinion that ownership and disposition of the jewels should be determined by the judiciary or Treasury according to law, not by the executive. Taney reiterated his position in a supplementary opinion on January 7. On January 13 AJ concluded to stop the case through either a pardon or a nolle prosequi, at the discretion of the Dutch minister. Huygens's son, now acting chargé, chose the nolle prosequi, and on January 31 district attorney Hamilton entered it and restored the jewels to Huygens (DNA-RG 59, M179-72; *HRDoc* 123, 26th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 853–63, Serial 387).

John Christmas McLemore to Andrew Jackson Donelson

Private

Nashville 9th Novemr 1831

Dear Donelson

Your kind favour of the 15th. ulto. was recvd. a day or two before the arival of Govenor Branch who reached here on the day of the dining given to Eaton. You will have seen by the papers the kind reception given to Eaton. I was a subscriber to the dinner given him and attended it, there was fifty five of the Sixty Members of the Legislature and about 130 of our Citizens, all thorough goeing Jackson men subscribers, and all attended. Eaton made a verry appropriate & excellent speech, the toasts were not personal & generally good, and every thing went off well—a good many ladies called on Mrs E.[1] A large party was given at Mr. Biddles at which she and all the fashionables of our little Town attended—me and my wife with the rest—no introductions past—my wifes curiossity was satisfied by a sight of Mrs. E. She did not call on Mrs. E. although Bell urged it on me as being proper. I cou'd not see it in that light and of course my wife did not call on Mrs. E. She is however disposed to do whatever may be thought advisable by you & her sister, as she will not do any thing that might be supposed to prejudice her *sister*.[2] I called on Eaton the day after his arival at the city Hotel. he recvd. me verry kindly and I was introduced to Mrs. E. but no conversation passed between her & me—the Majr. treated me with marked politeness. I gave every encouragement to others to take their wifes to visit Mrs. E, believing as I do *now* the sooner she gets full into society the better. I go in for the support of the old chief and so fare as the reception of Eaton may be considered as a support of the Genl. he has been thus fare well supported here. In Franklin Murfreesboro [& o]ther places it is said dinners will be given Eaton.[3] Govenor Branch too has been verry kindly recvd. by the Genls. friends. I called on him at Mr Hills the day after his arrival & indeed every day since he has been here. Your Brother Daniel & wife has been with him all the time. My wife called on them and we invited them to spend and evening with us, but their engagements heretofore has prevented them. We invited them to spend tomorrow evening, but they are engaged to spend it with Mr. Hill and the next day will set out for Sumner, and on Monday Govenor Branch ~~sets~~ will set out for Washington, he with Daniel & ~~daughter~~ wife has however promised to spend a half an hour at my house tomorrow. I have had much conversation with Govenor Branch and so has Bell, on the subject of his situation and relation to the Genl. and I am pleased to say to you that the more I know of the man the more I admire and love him; there never was a better or more honest man than John Branch; he is not a great man, but an *honest man*—for had he been great, he wou'd never have come out in support of Ingham & Berrien

in the way & at the time he did—in that he committed a great blunder and how he is to get out of it is difficult to immagine. Yet I hope there is a way; and so fare as may be in my power I am ready & willing to help so as not to injure the Genl—not otherwise. Bell and myself have had much conversation on the subject and we both went as fare as we cou'd with safety, to render Branches stay here as suthing to his feelings as possible. Bell went with him to the Legislature while in session and he was invited and took a seat within the Bar. A private dining was given the Govenor at Mr. J. Nichols and several large private dinnings was given him at Franklin, (as I am informed by Mr. Hill) from which place the Govenor has just returd. He spent an evening at Mr. Berryhills and upon the whole he has spent his time quite agreeably. The only occurrence I regret is his dinning at Dr. Mnairy's.[4] I wish he cou'd have gotten over it; but I am told that the Doctor was so pressing he cou'd not well get over it. I am glad Daniel & wife did not attend. The Doctor gave him a verry large dinning as I am told, upwards of eighty attended. Bell & a great number of thorough going Jackson men were at the Dinner maney of the same who were at Eaton's Dinner. Bell was at Eatons dinner also. Bell done every thing he cou'd to render Branches situation as agreeable as possible—he is a noble fellow. Jackson & Branch never had a better friend than he is. A publick dinner was tendered Branch in Sumner, but he verry properly declined it, indeed Govenor Branch has every reason to be pleased, (under the circumstances) with his reception in Tennessee and I am pleased to say to you, that he is verry much gratified and pleased with his visit; he told me this evening that the kindness ~~and the tender manner in~~ which ~~he~~ had been ~~treated~~ extended to him here and in Franklin and indeed by every friend of the Genl. was such as to endear him to the state, and that if he ever moved, it wou'd be to Tennessee, he further remarked that it so strongly reminded him of old associations, that it had a great tendency to soften him down—that notwithstanding the difficulties in which he found himself something he hoped wou'd yet occur by which the breach between him and the President wou'd be ~~yet~~ healed; he had frequent conversations with me on the subject of his difficulties with the President, in which he always spoke in kind terms of the Genl. but gave it to Eaton, Lewis & in his conversations generally he has been verry prudent. He assures me that nothing shall drive him into the support of the opposition, that he will go faithfully for the administration. Bell & myself have consulted on the best course to reconsile Branch & the Genl. I gave it as my opinion to Bell which he urged on Branch to persue, I am satisfied from a conversation with Branch this evening he will persue it—which is that Branch, will as he is pledged ~~to do~~ to his constituants, give the administration his hearty and firm support—and first prove by that course that he honestly intends to redeem his pledges—to make no *publication whatever*—and to do no act whatever, which will be calculated in the least to weaken the Genl.—to faithfully serve out the next Session of Congress giving all his support to the administration—without if possible

alluding to his difficulties, during that period; after that (if in the mean time justice is not done him), to persue such course as he may think best—always seperating the Genl. from those who done him the injury—and to do nothing on any occasion or at any time that woud involve the Genl. ~~in his difficulties with others~~—in this way we who know Branch's worth, and who are in the confidence of the Genl. wou'd have time to place things so fare as regards Branch in their proper light before the Genl, and by degrees we may and I have great confidence we will, yet heal the breach between them. I hope to be able to get to Washington this winter, and If I go it will be as much on account of Branch (and believing too I shall be serving the Genl) as anything else. You may rely on my hearty coeoperation with you & Bell, in healing the breach—there never was a more honest man than Branch, I feel for him, and hope you will do every thing in your power, without injury to yourself or the Genl, to save him. I have told Branch frankly that so long as he spoke as he did, kindly of the Genl, and so long as he shew a disposition to keep the old chief out of his scrapes with others, he might rely on my disposition to heal the difficulties between them as fare as I coud but that whenever he attacked the Genl., no matter in what way, he woud find me against him. He knows my feeling and yours too and knows how to appreciate ~~such feelings~~ them. His friendship for you me and Bell is as strong as ever; poor fellow I feel for him—and we must if possible save him and I think it is possible. There is one thing I wish you to do, which I think verry important to enable ~~to~~ us to heal the difference, it is if possible to *stop the Globe from further attacks on Govenor Branch*. Cant you in some way, get Blair to slope off? Branch has seased making publications & why will the Globe force him to make more? for god sake stop him from saying another word about Branch if you can. He may for me, abuse Ingham, Berrien & Calhoun to his hearts content, for I view them nullifiers and fit subjects of abuse. But Branch is a good republican an honest man and friend of the Genl. & his administration; whereas I believe the others were always opposed to both to the Genl. & his useful administration. this is written in much haste, which will apologise for blunders. I have just recvd. a letter from Colo Burke advising me of his having made a sale of our Gold lands in Georgia for $40,000[5] My third being $13.333.$^{33}/_{100}$ will aid me much, with it and my other means I hope soon to be more at ease, it will enable me at least to visit you this winter for the purpose of doing all the good I can to serve the Genl. you and Branch. When did you hear from my daughter? she writes but seldom, pray write me frequently & let me know what is going on—is Lewis yet at the Presidents—and how do you and the Genl get on? are you full in his confidence?

I wrote Genl. Jackson a long letter (marked *Private*) on the day before yesterday in which I speak of Branch thus—"As to Govenor Branch it will be with reluctance I give up the idea that he entered your Cabinet with honest intention to sustain you, and that he was not influenced in any

degree by your enemies in the early stages of your administration, afterwards I am free to say he does appear to have partak[en to] a degree of the hostile feelings of those who from the first were not *your* friends. This perhaps was the necessary result of the state of things which his first step in declining interchange of civilities with Majr. Eaton brought him into. The same circumstances opperated with renewed force in exciting him to an angry and hostile course in the publication he made after the dissolution of the cabinet. It wou'd be a great gratification to me to find, that you cou'd be brought to regard Govenor Branch with some more indulgence than can be justly extended to those who were surely hostile to you from the Beginning. I think Govenor Branch will yet see his error and give you a fair support. I do not think it can materially promote the publick interest to continue the war upon him. But still if Govenor Branch shall continue his attacks upon your administration I am ready to hold him as I do those who have always been your enemies. I have seen Govenor Branch sinse his arrival here and I think him well disposed towards you still, and I yet hope he will do nothing further to excite publick attention upon the subject of his difference with Majr. Eaton, as he must be sensable that whatever he shall say or do in that business may be construed into hostility to you."

I have thus you see made a beginning to reconsile matters, and have as you see touched lightly—the only way to do the business is by degrees. One word to you. Recollect that Calhoun is a nullifier and an enemy to the Genl. and that Ingham and Berrien are his friends & are also nullifiers and that they were all opposed to the Genl's running for the second term—that Branch never was for Calhoun never a nullifier & always for the Genl. Now the more you abuse Calhoun (and he deserves abuse) the better, and the more frequent you impress on the Genl. that Branch never was for Calhoun the better. Pardon me for this long letter, I fear it will tire you, but I write so seldom, I must write long. remember me kindly to sister Emmily Mary Eastin & the Genl.—and write me frequently. We are all in good health—our good Motherinlaw & all our relations (except Leml. who has been quite sick but now recovering) are well. Truly your friend

Jno. C. McLemore

P.S. The Senetorial election will not be brot on this session. Grundy has weakend himself by his leaning for nullification, tho he denies this horrible doctrine & says he is thoroughgoing Jackson man.

J. C. M.

[Endorsed by AJ Donelson:] Recd. 25th. Novr. 1831 J. C. McLemore

ALS, DLC-Donelson Papers (mAJs).

1. On October 29 a large public dinner was held for Eaton in Nashville, jointly sponsored by committees of citizens and state legislators. The toasts and Eaton's speech giving

"a general view" of AJ's administration skirted direct mention of the Cabinet controversy (*Nashville Republican*, November 1, 1831).

2. Emily Donelson was Elizabeth McLemore's sister. Nashville lawyer Charles Biddle (1787–1836), brother of BUS president Nicholas Biddle, was on the citizens' organizing committee for Eaton's dinner.

3. Dinners were given for Eaton at Franklin on November 11 and Murfreesboro on November 18.

4. On November 4 and 5 Branch declined offers of public dinners from Sumner County and Franklin. Nashville physician Boyd McNairy (1785–1856) was an enemy of AJ.

5. John R. Burke of Nashville was a business associate of McLemore.

To Edward Livingston

Thursday morning Novbr. 10th 1831—

(Confidential)

The President with his respects to Mr E. Livingston encloses a letter recd. from Mr. V. B. for his perusal & consideration. The subject of the North East boundery is one of great delicacy and importance. The suggestion of indemnity for territory surrendered a good one, but a question of great delicacy arises on the manner of suggesting it to the Senate. Would it not be well to barely suggest, that if the Senate were of opinion that an indem[nity] ought to be made, that the Executive would heartily concur in any measure that might put to rest this important, & now perplexing subject. The boundery of the State of Main never having been established, but allways in dispute the constitutional question of the power of the General govt.—to partition a State, by surrender to a foreign Government, does not appear to me to be embraced in this case. When you read the enclosed please return it to me, you will see that it was only intended for my own eye.

AN, NjP-Livingston Papers (mAJs). AJ enclosed Van Buren's September 6 letter (above).

To John Randolph

Washington City Novbr. 11th. 1831.

Dr. Sir,

I have received your favor of the 8th. inst., and am truly gratified to hear that exercise and the pure air of Va have had a favorable influence upon your system. Allow me to express the hope that these causes aided by the society of your old friends may yet conquer your disease and restore your usual health.

You inform me that at a late meeting with your constituents you had occasion to use my private letters to you. I have too much confidence

in your friendship and discretion to doubt the propriety of any reference which you can have made on that occasion to my correspondence. Although not perhaps as guarded in expression as it would have been if designed for publication, and in this respect may call for some explanation from you, its sentiments I trust are just and obvious enough to save me from misconception and yourself from misrepresentation in useing them.

I am aware that some dissatisfaction was excited in Va by the course of the executive in regard to appointments; but I was never sensible of the justness of the exceptions stated to the employment of Printers in the public service. The press is the Palladium of our liberties. Disfranchise those who conduct it: or what is the same thing make the calling of an editor a disqualification for the possession of those rewards which are calculated to enlarge the sphere of talent and merit, and which are accessible to other callings in life, and you necessarily degrade it. You throw out of its service the principles which foster virtue and distinction and in their place those of a contrary character naturally take root and grow up.

It is the object of all who really take an interest in the honor and welfare of our country to elevate the character of the press and make it the vehicle of truth and useful knowledge. What scheme can be more subversive of this object than one which virtually withdraws from the service of the press those who aspire to some higher character in life than that of mere agents for the advancement and distinction of others? The respectability of the humblest vocations in life cannot be maintained when circumscribed by such a rule, and much less can that be which aims to enlighten the public mind and thus guard the institutions of the country from the counsels of the unwise and the designs of the ambitious. Intending not to sanction a rule so unjust as this in the bestowal of the public patronage I refused to consider the editorial calling as unfit to offer a candidate for office; and accordingly appointed them on a few occasions when they were deemed honest and capable. In doing so I obeyed a sense of duty which I cannot doubt will be approved by the country at large

There may have been instances in which I selected characters not the best calculated for the service in which they were placed, but explanations on this ground do not reach the objections to which you have alluded and are therefore not called for on this occasion. Those objections have reference to a general principle which renders it improper to appoint printers to offices of honor or emolument; or at least to such an undue partiality for this class of applicants on the part of this administration as to make it obnoxious to the charge of subsidizing the press

The latter charge is as far from fact and truth as the principle stated would be from a just regard for the honor and independence of the press. On the score of numbers the proportion of printers who have been appointed will be found to warrant no such inference. The few who hold offices are without exception old and well tried members of the Republican party, and were in every instance distinguished by the confi-

dence and regard of the community in which they lived. The fact is that it is against this feature of their appointments that the malice of my enemies has been directed, and I think the public mind will soon perceive it. Look at the operations of the Bank of the United States in this particular and see if all these objections are not gradually conformed to the lists which the magic power of that institution now threatens to enforce.

In regard however to these complaints and others of a similar character founded on a pretended distrust of *influences* near or around me, I can only say that they spring from the same false view of my character. I should loath myself did any act of mine afford the slightest colour for the insinuation that I follow blindly the judgement of any friend in the discharge of my proper duties as a public or private individual. I am sensible of my liability to err: but rest assured that I have too much confidence in the indulgence of my fellow citizens and in the integrity of my purposes to desire any other shield for my conduct than truth and a fair hearing from those who have a right to judge me.

Thanking you most sincerely for the freedom with which you have stated the apprehension of some of my friends and your own unaltered sentiments of friendship and regard, I remain my dear Sir as usual yr. obliged and humble svt

Signed A. J.

Copy in AJ Donelson's hand, DLC (40). Randolph replied on November 22 (below).

From Tilghman Ashurst Howard

Bloomington Inda.
11th. Nov. 1831.

Sir

I have read with astonishment the disclosures contained in the paper which you had the goodness to forward me, relating to Mr. Calhoun's conduct in regard to the South Carolina claim. I confess that I am compelled to give up the last remaining confidence which I still entertained for that (talented but ambitious and I fear I may add dangerous) individual. I am a native of South Carolina, and in that state lie the bones of one of my parents; and I was predisposed to feel the attachment for Mr. Calhoun which ever exists towards those whom we esteem as countrymen; I entertained for him a species of National attachment, which was strong and not lightly to be removed; but, warm as my feelings are towards those who are the sons of my own native land, I am driven in this instance, to say to Mr. Calhoun, "your claims on my friendship & confidence have been destroyed by your *reckless disregard for the Union*, and your *duplicity*.

With regard to the doctrines of "*nullification*" I have never entertained but one opinion, and that is, that they are the offspring of a faction alike

dangerous to the "*Union*," and to the interests of the South: I have, indeed been disposed to say of them,

quem Deus, vult perdere, prius dementat—for really, it would seem that they had their own destruction directly in view.[1] What would the South do, without the North? The question involves every thing which contains the prosperity, and even existence of the southern states. If South-Carolina were separated from the Union, she would, instead of being long, an independent government, extending her influence over a happy people, become the scene of internal dissensions, and, perhaps a land in which the "*lord and the vassal*" would wage a war of extermination in its most horrid form! May God avert these calamities! I would hope that the doctrine of nullification was not based upon the *Machiavelian policy of "dividing to reign."* This has before ~~this~~ the present time, been the destruction of free governments, and I hold every man an enemy to his country who holds doctrines which tend to this result. Permit me to congratulate you on your recovery of your health, in the enjoyment of which may Providence preserve you. I pray you to accept this assurance of my unabated confidence & friendship.

Tilghman A. Howard

Judge Lowe, an old friend sends his respects to you[2]

Howard

[Endorsed by AJ:] Genl Howard Indiana, Bloomington, to be filed A. J

ALS, DLC (40). Howard (1797–1844), a lawyer lately removed from Tennessee, was appointed U.S. district attorney for Indiana in 1833. He was later a congressman.

1. "Whom the Gods wish to destroy, they first deprive of reason."
2. William M. Lowe (c1770–1840) had been an Indiana Jackson elector in 1828.

To James Alexander Hamilton

(Private)

Washington Novbr. 12th. 1831—

My Dear Sir

Yours of the 8th. instant was received yesterday with two from Mr M. Van Buren enclosed, which I have read with much pleasure, and herewith return to you.[1]

I sincerely regret the untimely death of Mr Dunlap, his loss will be sincerely regretted in Florida, as well as by his numerous friends elsewhere.[2]

I sincerely thank you for the information given of the intended views & plans of the Nullifyers in So. Carolina—that there is a party in that State under a certain influence that would dissolve the Union rather than not effect their ambitious views, I have no doubt, but that, that, influence can obtain a majority in So. Carolina to effect this wicked purpose, I

cannot permit myself for one moment, to believe—tho', should the crisis arise, you will find my energies equal thereto, & that the *Union will be preserved*.

The valluable suggestion you have made in your letter on this subject, was happily incorporated in the project of a Message prepared, before the receipt of your letter, and from which, I am happy, that we think so much alike upon this subject. Any suggestions you may please to make on any other interesting point or subject will be thankfully recd. It would be too gratifying to the combination of the South, to express in the Message any fear, or alarm, that they could endanger our union.

If I judge right of the American people, I think the expose I will make of the prosperity of the nation, and our capability, with the aid of congress to pay the national debt, on the 3rd. of March 1833, will destroy the nullifyers by not leaving a single stone for them to stand on; and congress will find a source of contemplation and action, by being called upon to reduce the Tarriff to the wants of the Government after the publick debt is paid, to go into effect & opperation on the 4th. of March 1833.

I must close, for indeed, I am so surrounded with business that I have no time to write letters, or for friendship; when I get my Message arranged I will, if I can have time to have it copied, send you ~~the~~ its outlines; in the mean time, I pray you to accept for yourself & present to your lady & family my best wishes, and if Mary Ann Lewis is with you, present her with my most affectionate regard, & believe me your friend

AL, NN (18-1252). Extract, Hamilton *Reminiscences*, p. 231.

1. Van Buren had written Hamilton on September 10 and 22 with news of his voyage and arrival in London (NN).

2. AJ had appointed James A. Dunlap district attorney in Florida on October 17. Dunlap died in New York City on November 6. AJ replaced him with John K. Campbell.

To [Charles Jones Love]

[This letter is available only in a later published version.]

(private)

WASHINGTON Nov'br 13th 1831.

MY DR. COL.

Your very interesting letter of the 30th ult. has been received, and I hasten to thank you for it. The interest you have taken in my private affairs, as well as my public, and the success of my administration, claims from me, and receives my highest gratitude. The welcome given Major Eaton and his family has done much in putting a seal of disapprobation upon the intrigues of Calhoun and his colleagues in the conspiracy and secrete intrigue, the object to destroy me, and embarrass the government. Whilst Calhoun is devising plans to embarrass the administration I will give the

death blow to nullification by my message. I am prepared to show, that I will pay the national debt by the 3d of March 1833, and will call upon Congress to take up the Tariff and Judicously arrange and reduce it, to the wants of the government, when the debt is paid, that they may legislate, prospectively, to go into effect on the 4th of March 1833, ?where then will the nullifyers have ground to stand upon. If Congress will permit me to apply the Bank stock to the payment of the public debt I will pay the last dollar on the 3d of March 1833—and *dare* Congress refuse so to apply it? When the public debt is paid, we want nothing but safe deposits for our revenues, and no longer to be members of corporations, which is inconsistant with the purity and dignity of our government. Let capitalists use their capital in banks, or as they please, but unless Government chooses to establish a national bank of deposit, and exchange, let them have no interest in private corporations. The business of Government are the general national concerns, external and internal, and the local matters belong to the States. Therefore I trust Congress will give me the power asked for, and I will surely pay the debt by 3d of March 1833, but this for yourself, until my message is made *public*. The information given of the progress of the improvements at the Hermitage is gratifying to me, but I fear that I will, for some time yet, be prevented from the enjoyment of *sweet retirement there*. I will, if I can, next summer visit *sweet home*, when I shall have the pleasure of seeing you, and your dear family there. I will be in retirement as soon as the national debt is paid, and nullification put down, and the liberties we enjoy placed upon a permanent and peaceful footing. I have no doubt but the real design of Calhoun and his co-nullifiers are to sever the Union if they can. I have just rec'd intelligence that warrants this belief Calhoun would neither *now* rule Carolina, than not to rule, and his intrigues and duplicity having become so palpable to the nation he sees there is no hopes of his realizing his ambitious views, only by disevering the Union. The Tariff has been made the ostensible cause, but according him to be the advocate and father of the law of 1816, the advocate of internal improvements, the tarriff, and protecting system, how can it be, that he is now the deadly enemy to all, if constitutional then, it cannot be unconstitutional now.[1] but enough, read the Globe of the 14th, see Mr. Speers second letter, and you will be able to judge of the baseness, and duplicity of Calhoun, and his coadjutor, the late Governor Miller—as Mr. Crawford has said in his criticism on Mr. Calhouns Book, "it is not for the want of memory, but the want of veracity, that makes him tell palpable falsehoods."[2]

I thank you for the intelligence of the health of my family, and good condition of my State. I hope Steel treats my servants well—admonish him my Dr. sir, on this subject.

I will not for the present sell virago, I have no doubt she will make a first rate runner, and her blood, as a brood mare, is valuable, and will add much to the benefit of my son, if he becomes a farmer, which I think

he will.[3] If there should not be a slip, between the cup and the lip, he will be married on the 24th instant to an accomplished young lady in Philadelphia, of respectable family and connections. Therefore I think he will become a good farmer.

Present me affectionately to your family.

Andrew Jackson.

Printed, *The Vicksburg Daily Herald*, May 26, 1870 (mAJs).

1. As a South Carolina congressman after the War of 1812, Calhoun had championed federally funded internal improvements and the tariff of 1816.

2. On November 14, the *Globe* restated its October 7 accusation that Calhoun had secretly attempted to poison South Carolina opinion against AJ in December 1829 over the state's War of 1812 expense reimbursement claim. State comptroller Alexander Speer (1790–1856) had been South Carolina's agent to pursue the claim. He had written governor Stephen Decatur Miller (1787–1838) confidentially from Washington on December 31, 1829, incorrectly predicting AJ's opposition to it—based, said the *Globe*, on Calhoun's misrepresentations to him. Miller had recently published Speer's letter to explain his subsequent disaffection with both AJ and Speer. The *Globe* included a new public letter from Speer to Miller, accusing him of betraying confidentiality and distorting facts to injure both him and AJ. In his June 1 public address against Calhoun over the Seminole controversy, Crawford had said, "it is the want of veracity which must be reproached to Mr. Calhoun, and not the decay of his memory" (*Niles*, September 17, 1831).

3. Virago, or Polly Baker, was a mare sired by Stockholder and sold by AJ in 1833.

From William Carroll

Nashville, November 13th. 1831.

My dear sir;

I received by due course of mail your kind letter of the 11th. of October, and should have answered it sooner, but I was desirous to give you some local news that would be interesting to you.

The General Assembly have now been in session eight weeks, and no important subject has yet been acted upon. The impeachment of Judge Haskell occupies their whole attention at present, and will continue to do so for the next ten days. He will, I think be acquited; for altho he certainly has been guilty of many things unbecoming the dignaty of the office he holds, yet no injury to suitors resulted from his conduct, and I cannot believe that he was actuated by any improper or corrupt motives.[1] As it is now certain that we shall be obliged to have a called session for the purpose of laying off the State into Congressional districts, the election for Senator will not now take place. Grundy and Foster are both in the field, and the friends of each rely confidently on his success. For my own part I have not seen sufficient developements to authorize a positive opinion, and I shall not be much disappointed to see some third person succeed in preference to either of them.

You have doubtless seen and heard every thing in relation to the reception of Major Eaton in this place. It was in fact a very flattering one.

The day after his arrival, I went into the General Assembly and started a subscription paper, for the purpose of giving him a public dinner; and fifty three out of fifty nine present signed it without the least hesitation. The citizens also shewed great pleasure in testifying their respect for him. Upwards of one hundred of them were at the dinner; and the day went off with great harmony and good feeling. Some persons were in favor of inviting the members of the Legislature, but I was opposed to it, upon the ground, that their presence in that case would be doing no honor to Major Eaton, whereas, if they attended as subscribers, being members of the General Assembly, it would have the appearance abroad of being in a great degree the act of the whole State, and would certainly be more grateful to him. In truth it is but Justice to say that Major Eaton never stood as well in Tennessee as he does now; and if his friends urge him for the Senate a year hence the probability is in favor of his election.

The late elections in Pennsylvania are as favorable as you could desire, and leave nothing upon which the opposition can found a hope in relation to that State.[2] The fact is that the distracted condition of those opposed to you renders their success almost impossible even, if by union they constituted a majority. The result of all their efforts, I think will make good the opinion I formed nearly a year ago that at the polls you would have no opposition. That this may be the case is my sincere and cordial wish. After entering upon the duties of your second term, you may expect some repose, as their will then be no motive to find fault without cause. Aspirants will look a head to the succession, abuse each other, and let you alone. You certainly have been the object of a great deal of unmerited reproach, for the question may with propriety be asked of every unprejudiced person, what former Administration did more, or even as much as the present. The West India trade has been restored, a matter however of very little value if we are to believe the opposition. Their opinion however is intitled to little weight, when we remember the efforts of President Adams on the subject. But in addition to this you have opened the commerce of the Black Sea, settled the claim of our citizens against France as well as that against Denmark.[3]

If your message to the approaching Congress, be of the proper character, of which I have no doubt, and your friends harmonize, be firm and conciliating, opposition will receive a death blow this winter.

Mr. Bell left here a week ago, and Mr. Grundy this morning in the stage via Knoxville. The other members from West Tennessee have all set out I believe. The season for the last two months has been unusually fine, and what had previously promised to be a bad crop of cotton turns out well.

I know that your time is so much occupied with public business that you have but little to spare for private correspondence with your friends; and altho I shall always be happy to hear from you, I shall only expect you to write when you have leisure. We enjoy general good health, and are blessed with an abundant crop of corn and every discription of vegitables.

I pray you to receive assurances of my best wishes for the success of your administration, and for your own health and happiness. Sincerely, your friend

Wm. Carroll

ALS, DLC (40).

1. Tennessee circuit judge Joshua Haskell (1786–1839) had been impeached on charges of judicial negligence for his inattention and absences from the bench during trials. The state senate acquitted him on November 30.

2. Jacksonians won a legislative majority in Pennsylvania elections on October 11.

3. In addition to the British West Indian colonial trade agreement and Turkish commercial treaty, AJ's administration had concluded a claims convention with Denmark in 1830.

To Louis McLane

(Private)

Novbr. 14th. 1831—

The President having some doubts in his mind, on the law arising on the facts stated in the case of Pettis Indicted & found guilty of the crime of perjury. The fact as stated. The oath when administered, on application for a search warrant, ~~the oath~~ not taken down in writing, but verbally administered, "you make oath that the articles (naming them) were taken from your room and that you suspect A.B. of having taken them, and that you believe~~d~~ them to be concealed in John Cromwell dwelling House. This oath being administered the justice went away on other business & requested the applicant & Deponant to return in an hour or two when the warrant would be prepared. When Pettis called, the warrant was made out & the word feloniously introduced in warrant as tho it had been in the affidavit. There is no affidavit signed by the deponant. The question first arises, as these matters were proper for the party to urge before the court & jury can the pardoning power take them into view in his deliberations—again, this matter might have been urged as a good ground for a new trial, or in arrest of judgt., if the prisoner has omitted to take advantage of these defects, or if he has, and they were overruled by the court, is it within the province of the Pardoning power to extend it for these irregular proceedings or is the President bound to presume ~~that~~ from the record that the law has been duly administered, & the party duly convicted; and for the exercise of clemency, look into the ~~matters~~ facts for paliating circumstances which attended the commission of the crime, not into the Legallity of the proceedings.

The President will thank Mr Lewis McLane for his opinion on the law arising from the facts as stated the atto. Genl being absent—believing, from information, that justice Hebb will verify the facts as stated—upon oath.

P.S. return this with such suggestions as you may please to make.

AD, DLC (40). Fontaine H. Pettis (c1799–1858) was a lawyer, brother of late Missouri congressman Spencer Pettis, and a recurrent supplicant for government office. He and his family were boarding in Washington with John Cromwell (c1800–1835), but had fallen into his debt. On October 11, while Pettis was out, Cromwell entered his room, took most of his belongings, and locked them in the cellar as security for Pettis's unpaid board. After failed efforts to reach agreement with Cromwell on the debt and recover his property, Pettis swore an oath before justice of the peace William Hebb (c1769–1848) on October 24 that his possessions had been stolen. Hebb issued a search warrant for Cromwell's cellar, where the items were recovered. Cromwell then charged Pettis with perjury for falsely swearing that he had "feloniously stolen, taken and carried away" Pettis's property (DNA-RG 59, 18-1313). At trial, Cromwell produced proofs that Pettis had known where his things were stored. On November 5 Pettis was convicted of perjury and sentenced to five years in the penitentiary.

Pettis appealed to AJ for a pardon on November 8, claiming he had sworn truthfully before Hebb (DNA-RG 59, 18-1288). On November 13 Pettis wrote again. He declared his innocence, charged a persecution against himself, and explained that the word "feloniously" was not in the oath he had sworn, but was added to the search warrant without his knowledge (DNA-RG 59, 18-1301). On November 14 AJ wrote McLane and Hebb. Hebb replied the same day that if the sworn oath omitted "feloniously" it was inadvertent, but that in his view Pettis intended "nothing criminal" and the perjury conviction was a "distorted exagerated case" (DNA-RG 59, 18-1306). McLane replied below.

From Louis McLane

Nov. 14. 1831

Dear Sir

I have been prevented by constant interuptions in my office from sooner returning the within memorandum which you did me the honor to submit for my consideration.

It is most regular undoubtedly to found a pardon upon circumstances not reviewable by the forms of the law, rather than upon grounds which might be used on a motion for a new trial, or in arrest of judgment. The general presumption is that the record is correct, and the pardon is founded on the mitigating circumstances of the case. But the prerogative of pardon is in general a matter of pure discretion to be exercised by the President according to the peculiar circumstances of each individual ~~case~~ offence which comes under his cognizance.

Altho' regularly and in ordinary cases the Defendant should be left to his motion for a new trial or in arrest of judgment, I do not doubt the propriety of exercising the pardoning power independently of these remedies in a case in which the offence was not proved, or where the defendant was convicted through improper feeling, or from prejudice.

In the present case the crime itself, and the circumstances under which it was committed afford, in my opinion sufficient mitigation for ~~the~~ a pardon; and the circumstances stated strengthen the propriety of granting it.

I would respectfully advise however, before placing reliance upon these that a statement of the facts proved should be requested from the Judge

before whom the indictment was tried, and from the attorney prosecuting. I have the honor to be Sir with the highest respect yr. ob. Servt.

L. McLane

ALS, DLC (40). AJ wrote district attorney Thomas Swann this same day (below).

To Thomas Swann

Washington City
Novr. 14th. 1831

Sir,

Mr. Pettis having petitioned for the interposition in his behalf of the Executive clemency, my attention has been drawn to the consideration of the mitigating circumstances attending his case—among these the most striking is the statement of the magistrate to whom Mr Pettis applied for the search warrant who leaves it a matter of some doubt whether in the oath administered the words *feloniously taken* were used by the deponent.

Will you do me the favor to send me a statement of the facts proved in the case signed by yourself and by the Judges who tried it, in order that I may have the means of deciding whether it falls properly within the pardoning power, and if so whether the power ought to be exercised. I am respectfully yr. obt. svt

Andrew Jackson

LS in AJ Donelson's hand, The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History (mAJs). Envelope, Robert F. Batchelder catalog 64 (mAJs). Swann (1765–1840) was the U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia. He replied on November 15. He reviewed the facts and testimony, called the case "a matter of deep regret," and said he would be "very sorry" to stand in the way of a pardon (DNA-RG 59, 18-1308). AJ ordered a pardon for Pettis on November 16 (below).

To Martin Van Buren

Washington Novbr. 14th. 1831—

My Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge your several letters, viz; the one at sea, one of the 21rst. & two of the 28th. of September last. Please accept for each, and all of them my thanks, and permit me to congratulate you and your son upon the fine health you enjoyed on your passage, and say to Mr Vail that I regret much to hear of his sufferings. Your two last letters came in good time as we were just preparing a communication to transmit to the Senate with the award, and it was highly important to be informed of the views of the British Government on that subject, before

making this communication to the Senate. You cannot, therefore, doubt of having my full approbation of the manner in which you have executed my wishes as expressed to you in my letter of the 10th. of August last, and I hope the communication promised to be sent on this subject to their minister here, will reach Washington before the meeting of Congress. The friendly feelings of the Government of England, as expressed by the King & his Ministers toward this, are highly regarded, and, on a proper occasion, you can assure the Minister that those friendly feelings are duly reciprocated by me. I am truly gratified at the kind reception you have met with from all, and do not doubt but you will maintain the confidence of that, and advance the interest of our own Government. Your letter at sea affords some valuable suggestions, which will be beneficially used. any suggestions your leisure will permit, and you may choose to make on any subject will be kindly received. I think we will be able to manage the business in respect to the award pretty well; but the opposition no doubt for political effect will throw as many dificulties in the way as possible, and attempt to use it to my prejudice. I have but one doubt as to the propriety of my course on this subject, and that is, whether I aught not to have taken the open ground of supporting the award. This doubt is created by the fact that, on this subject, the national faith was pledged by the acts and Treaties of my predecessor, and, if great Britain agrees to carry into effect the award, and we refuse to do so, we may be charged with the want of good faith, and on this ground, great Britain might take possession of the soil to the limits of her antient claim, which would lead to direct war. My advisers think it would be best for me not to avow a positive determination to support the award, as it is believed congress will advise the award to be carried into effect rather than hazzard the probability of a war, and thereby disturb the good understanding which now so happily exists between the two countries. Nevertheless there appears something awkward, which may be construed as a srinking from responsibility, under existing circumstances, which on reflection I do not like, in laying the subject before the Senate as it may return the communication, and say that the matter belongs to the Executive, and when he calls upon us for the necessary aid to carry the award into effect, or for further negotiation on the subject, ~~they~~ we will answer the call. We have however finally determined on adhering to & pursuing the course first agreed upon before you left me.

I have prepared the outline of my message. we have found that we will be able, with the use of the Bank stock, to pay the public debt by the 3rd of March 1833. and we will recommend to the next congress the propriety of taking up the Tarriff, and making a judicious reduction of duties to meet the wants of the Government after the Public debt is paid, and consequently to go into operation on the 4th. of March 1833. This will annihilate the nullifiers as they will be left without any pretext of complaint. And if they attempt disunion it must be because they wish it,

and have only indulged in their vituperations against the Tarriff for the purpose of covertly accomplishing their ends.

The appeal of Major Eaton has had the most powerful and beneficial effect throout the union. Messhrs. Calhoun, Ingham, Branch and Berrien are compleatly prostrated. I send you a Nashville paper that will give you some idea of the reaction in that place. Judge Overton writes me that there was but one lady—Mrs. Doctor McNairy—in Nashville who did not visit Mrs. Eaton, and I am further informed that fifty four members of the Legislature (out of 69 the whole number, one being dead) attended the dinner, and that in the evening Eaton & his wife were invited to attend the Theatre which was crowded by an audience the most fashionable and respectable.[1] But poor Branch, the worst of the matter for him is not yet told. He reached Nashville the evening of the dinner, and, on the next day went to the assembly room, where Mr Bell and Major Eaton were by invitation, and, after remaining in the *lobby* for some time without any attention being paid to him, he retired. He doubtless exclaims in his anguish "Farewell, a long farewell to all my greatness," as he now discovers his sad mistake in supposing that he, Ingham, Berrien, ~~and~~ Calhoun Duff Green & Co, could raise up and crush whom they pleased at pleasure, and destroy me by prostrating Eaton and yourself. Those men have "fallen, unwept, unhonered, & unsung," except by a few of their satilites, and, like Lucifer, to rise no more.[2] Their project now is to impeach me, and reject yourself, McLane & Livingston in the Senate. This is to alarm. I fear them not, nor need you. You are gaining strength daily in the nation, and will continue to do so, and rise in public estimation in opposition to all their intrigues to prevent it. Your enemies might as well attempt to change the running of the water in the Mississippi as to prevent you from obtaining the increased confidence of the people. To shew you the baseness and further duplicity of Calhoun I enclose you the Globe. Read Speers letter. What must a moral world, or community think of a man so perversly prone to secrete lying as J. C. Calhoun is proven to be? But I must close, posponing for another letter the ballance which I now intended to communicate.

I recd. Judge Overtons letter you enclosed, & forwarded it to him.[3] The old judge is in improved health and your sincere friend—you can rely on him. My best respects, with that of my son, Major Donelson & Lady Miss Mary Easton, Major Lewis & Col Earle are all affectionately tendered to you, your son and Mr. Vail, to which is added my prayers for your prosperity & happiness. Andrew my son will be married the 24th instant, unless there should be a slip between the cup & the lip, to a young lady of beauty and accomplishments, & of respectable connections, I speak from information never having seen her myself. Mr Toland gives me the above character of her.[4] Adieu & believe me your friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (18-1275). LS draft by George Breathitt with insertions by AJ, DLC (40); Bassett, 4:373–76.

1. Boyd McNairy's wife was Anna Maria Hodgkinson McNairy (1788–1869).

2. Shakespeare, *Henry VIII*, 3.2.351–72; Sir Walter Scott, *The Lay of the Last Minstrel*, 6.1.16.

3. On September 21 Van Buren had written John Overton in care of AJ about his arrival and reception in London (Overton Papers, THi).

4. Henry Toland (1785–1863) was a Philadelphia merchant.

To Andrew Jackson Hutchings

Washington November 15th. 1831—

My Dr. Hutchings,

I have not received a line from you, for the last three weeks, how this has happened I am at a loss to account. One inch of a candle more than is burnt in your usual studies, would remedy the neglect I complain of, if applied in writing to me. Am I mistaken?, if I am not, then, ~~did~~ you did promise to write me once every week—the pleasure I assured you, of hearing from you weekly, and judging ~~from~~ of your improvement from your composition, I had a hope would have been a sufficient inducement to your fulfilment of this promise. Hoping that you have a good excuse for this neglect, I shall wave further comment at present, ~~hoping for~~ looking to a faithful fulfilment on your part for the future.

I am perfectly recovered from the attack of fever, & my ~~health~~ strength quite restored, I am more free from affliction than I have been for years, for which I am thankful to the great giver of all good, to whom we are daily indebted for his protection & preservation Mr. Trist has informed me that you suggested to him a desire you had to visit me in the christmas Holidays. I will be happy to see you then, and if it should be necessary for me to request this indulgence from the professors, I will address them a note upon this subject; inform me on this point.

My Son is to be married on the 24th. instant to miss Sarah York of Philadelphia said to be, by my friends who have wrote me on the subject, accomplished, amiable beautiful; ~~I hope~~ These qualities must insure his happiness, or the fault must be his, and ~~that~~ in his welfare & happiness mine measurably consists. Therefore my full approbation is given. I cannot yet say when he will return, but I suppose in a few days after their marriage, when, I would be happy you could be here, & become acquainted with your adopted cousin.

Write me on the receipt of this, and beleve me your affectionate uncle

Andrew Jackson

P.S. I did intend to copy this, as there are several obliterations & erasures, do not take this for a patron—

ALS, THi (18-1283).

Order of Pardon for Fontaine H. Pettis

November 16th. 1831

It does not appear from the facts in the case of Fontain H Pettis found guilty of perjury and condemned to five years imprisonment in the Penitentiary, that the oath upon which the Indictment was sustained was administered to the Prisoner as set forth in the warrant which he obtained for the recovery of his goods. The magistrate who granted the search warrant admits that the oath was administered orally and that after some lapse of time the warrant issued containing the usual technicalities of the law; but his statement leaves it a matter of doubt whether the prisoner really used in his affidavit the words "feloniously stolen" which appear in the body of the warrant and without which the indictment for perjury could not have been legally sustained.

Again it appears that there was but one witness to prove the falsehood charged. The law on this subject clearly requires two witnesses to falsify the oath of a deponent.

For these reasons and other irregularities which appear in the proceedings: and in consideration of the petition for the pardon of the prisoner signed by ten of the jurors who sat upon his trial, by justice Hebb who granted the search warrant, and by other respectable citizens of the district, the President directs that the Prisoner be pardoned the crime of perjury for which he now stands convicted, and that he be liberated.[1]

Andrew Jackson

[Endorsed by AJ:] Fiat for pardon

DS in AJ Donelson's hand, DNA-RG 59 (18-1316). The pardon issued this same day. On December 1, the Washington *Daily National Journal* charged that Pettis's crime of perjury was made still "more atrocious" by its slander of John Cromwell, and that AJ had pardoned this "man branded with an infamous crime, for no other conceivable reason than because the culprit is a 'whole hog' Jackson-man." In reply, the *Globe* on December 3 recapitulated the grounds of the pardon stated in this order, quoting from William Hebb's and Thomas Swann's letters to AJ on November 14 and 15. Cromwell wrote *Globe* editor Francis Blair on December 17 that AJ had "been grossly imposed upon" concerning the facts of the case, and that Pettis was "an imposter" and "a most abandoned character" who had never intended to pay his board and whose presence had driven out his other boarders (Blair-Lee Papers, NjP).

1. Ten of Pettis's jurors had appended their approval to his November 8 appeal for pardon, and seven had also written AJ separately (DNA-RG 59, 18-1288 & 18-1296).

From Robert Love

Raleigh 17th of Novr 1831

My dear Sir—

It is with much pleasure that I enclose to you the first No. of a paper Published here, for the first time on Teuseday last, I will say nothing about the paper, as it will speak for its self, The Editors are both young men with whom I have not had any acquaintance, yet with Judge Potter the Father of one of them I have had an acquaintance of a long standing, Suffice it to say that I am well pleased with their avowed Politicks, and Manly Address[1]

My worthy friend the object of this Letter is to crave your friendly permission for myself to dig for Gold in the Cherokee Country. I have three Sons & as many Son in laws living not far distant from me, and we can spare among us forty strong and active hands & still retain a force sufficient to make our bread, and that is all we can do in a country like ours where we cannot Grow Cotton or Tobacco, our employment being as the Old Saying is we can make plenty of Hog and Hominy, and then sit down and eat it

I am well aware how your mind of late must have been Pestered with the Turmoils & Bablings of a few disappointed Men who were seeking more after the loaves & Fishes than the Public weal.

as this Letter is intended only for your own Ear I will speak more freely to you than I otherwise would, I think I know it is the most Ardent desire of your friends in this State, that you will suffer your name to be brought forward at the next Presidential Election knowing as I beleive I do the Gratification that it would afford your Enemies if they could throw Stumbling Blocks Sufficient in the way so as to cause you to decline a reelection

North Carolina most unquestionably is now stronger for you than the were at the last Election. Any information I may obtain on this score, the little time I may remain here after our Genl Assembly convenes which is to be on Monday next I will most assured communicate to you, I expect to leave here sometime about the fourth or fifth of Next Month

Our Governor with whom I had a friendly conversation last Evening is Very warm in your Interest, and will do every thing for you in his power[2]

I have heard nothing as regards our relations with the Mexican and South American Governments worth notice, but I presume that they remain friendly toward us

I hope you have enjoyed good health since at the City. My wifes health is much improved within the last six or eight months, and thank God considering Old age I have had my health better than could have been reasonably expected

I am with every feeling of friendship and regard your Obt Serv &c

Ro, Love

N.B. Be so kind as to write to as often as you may find a Leisure moment—
Ro, Love

[Endorsed by AJ Donelson:] Rob. Love of No. Carolina friendly letter—enclosing the constitutionalist, and asking permission to dig for gold in the cherokee nation.

[Endorsed by AJ:] answer to be given—The State sovereignity being extended over the cherokee country, the ~~sovere~~ right of domain & the fee, being in the State, the privilege asked for, must be granted by the State—the Federal Govt. having no power to interfere. The domain in fee belonging to the State the mines and minerals are vested in that sovereignity, until granted away by it. A. J. answered Decbr

ALS, DLC (40). *North Carolina Historical Review* 14 (1937): 377–78. Love (1760–1845) was a Revolutionary veteran and former North Carolina legislator. His wife was Mary Ann Dillard Love (1767–1842). AJ replied on December 10 (below).

1. Love enclosed the November 15 first issue of the Raleigh *North-Carolina Constitutionalist and State Rights' Advocate*, by William S. Ransom and William Potter (b. 1807). Potter's father was federal district judge Henry Potter (1766–1857).

2. Montfort Stokes (1762–1842) was governor of North Carolina.

To John Coffee

Washington Novbr. 20th. 1830—

Dr Genl

I have this moment recd. your letter, with one from my name sake inclosed.[1] Say to him I will answer his letter the first leisure moment, but that is not to day. We are very busy, here, preparing for congress.

I have noted your letter, which states the result of Mr Pearsons examination of the accounts between Hutchings and myself as guardian. My great desire ever has been, not to be indebt to that estate, and believing from the report from Mr William Easton that I was not, was the reason, that I requested the sum advanced for Hutchings, here, to be remitted to me, if convenient—but from the statement now received, you will please pass the one hundred and fifty dollars to my Credit with the estate of Hutchings, & do not remit it to me, and the ballance, of sixty one dollars thirty five cents out of the first mony of mine, which may come to your hand—and if there should be a delay in the collections, advise me, and I will directs Mr Josiah Nichol to remit that sum to you for me, that the account may be closed. Should a leisure moment occur, you would

oblige me by running over the account yourself, to see that it is correctly closed—and particularly whether vouchers for the disbursments of the $500 you advanced me when A. J Hutchings came on in 1829 with my son. If all the vouchers reached you, you will find that I advanced for him in schooling &c &c &c—about 550 dollars. on that account there would be a ballance of $50 due me. This will only require a review of the Books to that date.

If I knew where to address William Crawford, I would write him on the subject of Griffins debt, and that of his own. Having relinquished half the debt, William ought to pay it.[2]

I am happy to find you have determined to call the notice of the teacher of Andrew to the subject of his writing. Our modern mode of teaching is all wrong—formerly the child was taught to spell & read well, then was taught arithmatic, and to write well, these points gained, the gramar & Geography might be commenced with advantage & not before. Writing is machanical, & unless attended to when young, never can be obtained afterwards, therefore it is, that few of our modern scholars write good hands. Another advantage, whilst the child is learning the art of writing well, & arithmatic, his mind is expanding & preparing for the science and languages. I beg you therefore to say to the teacher to make him spend every day at least one hour in writing. I shall write Andrew soon.

My son left me this morning for Philadelphia, he is to be married on the 24 instant to a young lady who my friend Henry Toland says is of respectable connections, accomplished, amiable, & handsome—her parents are both dead, she has but one sister who is married to a very wealthy man by the name of Wetherall, her own name is, Sarah York; her father was a wealthy merchant, but shortly before his death was unfortunate having lost two ships at sea, and leaving two orphan daughters I suppose their fortune like many others were not carefully attended to.[3] I know not what she is worth, as on that subject I never made enquiry—it was enough for me to know that he loved her, that she was respectable & accomplished, and not one of the modern fashionables; when I see her I will write you. I would have been better satisfied if he had married in a family I knew; still as they are but two & the connection respectable, and he appears to be happy, I am content. & will receive her as a daughter, and treat her as my child.

I am very anxious about the chikisaws removing with the choctaws, & am in hopes you & Major Eaton may effect an arrangement; and as I have given you a chart blank, I hope it may be done on just and economical terms.[4] Write me often I must close with one remark—you will see my message shortly—it will be grateful to my friends, and confound my enemies. I will pay the public debt in all the year 1833. your friend

Andrew Jackson

P.S. We are all well here, & the Major Emily, with Earle Major Lewis & myself Join in salutations to you Mrs. C. & family. Mary Easton is gone on with Andrew.

ALS, THi (18-1327).

1. Andrew Jackson Coffee had written AJ on November 6 (above).

2. Percifor F. Pearson was a Florence, Ala., merchant who kept the Hutchings estate accounts. The late William Eastin (1784–1829) was Mary Ann Eastin's father and Coffee's brother-in-law. In October 1829, Coffee had sent AJ $500 to cover Hutchings's schooling and expenses in Washington for a year. AJ had paid Hutchings $150 on September 5, $31.25 for clothing and $118.75 in cash (THi, 18-0665). William White Crawford (b. c1790) had signed a promissory note to AJ on January 30, 1827, for $400 payable in two halves, and William Griffin (c1780–c1839) had owed AJ since 1823 for the purchase of a slave named George. In January 1832 Crawford paid Griffin's full debt of $331.75 to Coffee. On February 6 Coffee returned AJ's $150, explaining that he had applied $211.35 from Griffin to the Hutchings estate to balance and close AJ's account as guardian (OClWHi, 19-0974).

3. Sarah's late father was Peter Stille Yorke (1768–1815). Her sister, Jane Lockridge Yorke (1805–1872), had married Samuel M. Wetherill (1801–1840).

4. Eaton and Coffee wrote AJ on December 3 (below).

From Henry Baldwin

Philadelphia 20 Nov 1831.

Dear Sir

A friend of mine has written to Mr Roberts about the confidential letter & received an answer which he shewed me the letter contains nothing explicit or of a definite character Mr Roberts promisss a full explanation of all he knows in relation to it on a personal interview with the gentleman who wrote to him he promises me that he will go to see Mr Roberts in a day or two & on his return to state the result of the conversation to me I have authorised him to mention my name to Mr Roberts as the person at whose request he asks the information and also whether he has any objection to my making any use of the information he may communicate

I shall be able to write you definitively in all the ensuing week[.] yours with esteem

Henry Baldwin

ALS, NjP (18-1325). On January 26, 1832, AJ requested Baldwin to inquire directly of Lacock about his knowledge in 1819 of AJ's January 6, 1818, letter to Monroe and his communications with Calhoun over it. On March 12, Lacock agreed to answer AJ's questions if copies were also furnished to Calhoun. AJ queried Lacock on May 28, and on June 25 Lacock answered that "Mr Calhoun never did at any time or upon any occasion, communicate to me, either verbally or in writing, his knowledge of the existence of such a letter, although at the time alluded to, I had a knowledge of the contents of the letter, I did not derive that knowledge from Mr. Calhoun; nor have I ever made a suggestion, to any person that would justify such a belief." He said further that rather than encourage his committee's condemnation of AJ, Calhoun had attempted to deter it (DLC-40; *Calhoun Papers*, 11:596–602).

From Paithuckoosaw et al.

St. Louis, 20th. Novr. 1831.

Our father,

We, a deputation of about 400 of your Children of the Shawanoe nation would respectfully lay our situation before you.

For the last 40 years, we have resided in Upper Louisiana, entirely distinct from that portion of our people who are now settled on the Kansas river. While they were engaged in war against the U States, we were peaceably following our usual occupations for the support of our families.[1] So long a period has elapsed since we separated from them, that there is now but little of a common feeling of blood & friendship existing between us and them; besides, they are settled in a country of very limited extent, and a climate colder than we have been accustomed to, or wish to live in; they are also surrounded by people strangers to us. We therefore ask of you to grant us a piece of land on the Verdigris or Six Bulls, Arkansas, in exchange for such portion of the land on the Kansas, as we are entitled to, agreeably to our numbers. The land we ask for, is not claimed by any Indian nation; part of our people have been there for years, and many of our relatives the Shawanoes of Ohio have told us, that they will join us, if we succeed in procuring the land we now ask you for.

We were sent by our people to see our father Genl. Clark, and state our wishes to him; but he says that he has not the power to grant our request, and he tells us to apply to you, as the only person able to assist us.

Our father: Have pity on us—take our situation into consideration, and send us a favorable answer.

Pai-thuck-oo-saw, or Rabbit his X mark
Senai-wai-pi-chi-qua, or Crane his X mark
Sai-law-si-qua, or Turtle his X mark
Chai-way-nack-kaw, or Panther his X mark

DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-300). Copy, DNA-RG 46 (18-1331). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, p. 706 (Serial 245). William Clark forwarded this appeal to Lewis Cass on December 14 (DNA-RG 75, M234-300; *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 705–6, Serial 245). Treaties of 1825 and 1831 had provided for the relocation of Missouri and Ohio Shawnees to Kansas. Paithuckoosaw's Shawnees resided on White River in northern Arkansas Territory. On November 3 the territorial legislature had memorialized AJ for their removal, warning of bloodshed if they remained (*SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 640–41, Serial 245; *TPUS*, 21:411). On November 24, Governor Pope wrote Lewis Cass for instructions regarding the Shawnees (*TPUS*, 21:430–33). On January 30, 1832, Indian superintendent Elbert Herring replied for Cass that their petition could not be granted, as funds for Indian benefits were lacking "and the President insists, that they also remove to their western domain, where they may live unmolested and uninjured" (*TPUS*, 21:447–48). The White River Shawnees petitioned AJ again on July 20, 1832. A treaty of October 26, 1832, offered cash, clothing, and horses "to remove immediately" all the Arkansas Shawnees to Kansas (*Indian Treaties*, 2:370–72).

1. In the War of 1812, Shawnees led by Tecumseh had fought with the British against the U.S. in the Great Lakes region.

To John Coffee

Washington Novbr. 21rst. 1831—

Dr Genl

I wrote you a hasty letter on yesterday in answer to yours of the 10th. & noticing that part of your letter which had relation to the account as guardian of A. J. Hutchings I now seiz my pen for a moment to say to you how much I am gratified with the reception Major Eaton met with on his way out & at Nashville. I have just recd. a letter from him—he appears happy that he is in retirement; "he says he appears, ~~that~~ to be relieved of the weight of mountains that were upon him." How happy the man, free from ambition, and who finds such pleasure in retirement. I am sure he is like myself, in this, that he would not thro' choice, abandon retirement, & sweet home, for any office that could be offerred to him. And my Dr. Genl, I am sure I will be in retirement the first moment that I can with honor to myself & justice to the people, retire. The people say, "My services are necessary to preserve the Union, by restoring the constitution, by the administration of the Government, to its original reading, and thereby Harmonise the people in every section of the U. States. I do not suppose the ideas of the people in these particulars, to be well founded, but as the appeal has been made my gratitude to them & my principles upon which I have always acted forbid me to withold my assent to their call. But my Dr Genl, it was a severe trial, and I look forward with great anxiety to the period when I can like Major Eaton withdraw from the bustle of public life, and mix with my neighbours and friends in private. This I will do the first opportunity which offers after the publick debt is paid and a judicious Tarriff arranged & the Bank question settled. I am interrupted—and have to bid you for the present, adieu.

Andrew Jackson

ALS, THi (18-1462).

From Kimansa et al.

Kaskaskia November 22d. 1831—

Grand Father

When our ancestors sold you our land we were to hunt on the land ceded as long as it remained the property of the United States

Grand Father

We find, that part of our Treaty very much changed there is but little of this land sold and your white children will not let us hunt peaceably
Grand Father

It is the way of the Indian to hunt every fall but it grows worse and worse every year. your white children when they see us hunting they get mad and whip us they say we go to kill their hogs though they know better but they want to kill the Deer themselves and deprive us from doing the same
Grand Father

Your white children began two years ago to kill our horses when we were on our fall hunt they would just come near our camp and shoot them sometimes they would steal them and since two years they killed and stole seven heads
Grand Father

We see that we cannot stay here much longer except you could restrain your white children from injuring us and this we don't believe could be done we would therefore request you to confirm the arrangement made between us and our late chief Louis Jefferson Decouagne and to take from us the small portion of Land we have as a reserve and give us the full value for it we wish you to have some honest man to make the arrangement here with us and if we have to move west of the Mississippi we hope that you will assist us in our removal and when on the land allotted us you will not let us perish for the want of provisions until we raise a crop
Grand Father

We shake hands with you and hold you fast in our hearts and we hope that you will have pity on us and Treat us liberally

Kimansa his X mark
Baptiste Paschal his X mark
Pemicaway his X mark
Takiman is X mark

Witness
Baptiste Peoria[1] his X mark Interpt

DS, DNA-RG 46 (18-1472). By the 1803 Treaty of Vincennes, the Kaskaskia Indians had ceded their lands in Illinois, reserving a 350-acre tract near Kaskaskia and the right to locate another 1,280-acre tract elsewhere. The treaty also preserved their "privilege of living and hunting" on the ceded lands as long as they remained U.S. property (*Indian Treaties*, 2:67–68). By a May 31, 1822, agreement, the Kaskaskias had granted the smaller tract in fee simple to chief Louis Jefferson Decouagne in return for the relinquishment of his interest in the larger tract (DNA-RG 46, 18-1475). By an October 27, 1832, treaty, the Kaskaskias accepted new lands in present Kansas, relinquishing the 1,280-acre tract and reserving the 350 acres to Decouagne's daughter and heir (*Indian Treaties*, 2:376–77).

1. Baptiste Peoria (c1793–1873) was a leading member of the Peorias, who united with the Kaskaskias.

From John Randolph

Charlotte C. H. Nov. 22. 1831

My dear Sir

I have barely time to acknowledge the receipt of your most interesting letter. It is worthy of *you* & I shall ever prize the confidence reposed in me. I know that I have the power to serve the cause of your re-election & that power shall be exerted to the utmost stretch of my faculties. I write now merely to suggest that you have misapprehended *my* opinion on the subject of the appointment of newspaper Editors. It coincides *exactly* with your own. It was not the Editors of newspapers but *those* Editors that objection was taken to by others not me for I know them not. But I have not two hours sun to reach home in. By the next mail you will receive a most interesting communication from dear Sir your unaltered & unalterably faithful friend

J. R. of Roanoke.

[Endorsed by AJ:] John Randolph of Roanoke—recd 25th. Novbr. 1831—

ALS, DLC (40). Randolph wrote again on November 27 (below).

From John Reynolds

Belleville 23 Nov. 1831

Sir

I have the honor herewith to transmit to you the evidence relative to the recent Indian hostilities in Illinois which you requested of me.

As two persons will apply to the General Governement for pay for their services I deem it proper to inform the Government that I employed two Messrs. Thomas and Stuart. The great falls of rain prevented them from collecting the testimony sooner

I have employed Mr. Hay the clerk of the court to copy the originals, whose certificate will be correct that a true copy is given.[1] The Testimony most amply sustains all the statements I made to you and will satisfy all on the subject. With esteem I have the honor to be your obt. servt.

John Reynolds

ALS copy, I-Ar (18-1482). *Black Hawk War*, 2:204. Reynolds enclosed a November 4 report by William Thomas and John T. Stuart justifying Reynolds in calling out the militia against Black Hawk in May. Thomas and Stuart concluded that the Indians had expelled citizens and despoiled their property, that their intentions were unmistakably hostile and warlike, that federal troops lacked mobility to subdue them, "and that, but for the prompt movement of the Militia, the whole frontier of the State would have been abandoned by the Inhabitants." Appended were twelve citizens' affidavits (*Black Hawk War*, 2:169–72, 174–202).

1. John Hay (1769–1842) was an Illinois circuit court clerk.

To Robert Minns Burton

[The manuscript original of this letter is not available.]

I am truly gratified to hear that your lady and Mrs. C——, and many other ladies have joined the church. I would to God that you and C—— would follow this good example.[1] No people can flourish without true, genuine religion, which expels hypocrisy and deceit from their walks, purifies society, and calls down blessings upon a nation from above. How joyful to my departed wife, if she had been living, would this union to the church of her niece have been. If angels are permitted to know what mortals are here below doing, my dear wife, at the joyful tidings is praising her Redeemer, and thanking him that so many of her dear friends have been awakened by the Spirit, and brought to experience the blessed change from death unto life, and to exclaim in the language of the Scriptures, that they now know that their Redeemer liveth. May you and Mr. C——, and hundreds more of your friends, neighbors, and connections, follow this example.

Present me to your lady and Mrs. C——, and assure them that I rejoice with them on their happy change—a change that will give them peace and happiness in this world—firmness to meet all misfortunes and vicissitudes of life—give them confidence that they can smile in Satan's face and meet a frowning world. There is no real content and happiness in this world but what is produced by the consolations of religion, derived from the promises contained in the Scriptures. Have my little namesake presented to the church in baptism.

Printed extract, *The Philadelphian*, March 20, 1834 (mAJs). The Nashville *Republican Banner* printed a slightly variant transcription on March 20, 1857. According to later advertisements for the letter, including an American Art Association catalog for a sale on April 21, 1922, it also discussed AJ Jr.'s wedding that day and AJ's inability to attend, Eaton's *Candid Appeal*, William Donelson, and other matters (18-1484).

1. Mr. and Mrs. C were Robert L. Caruthers and his wife, Sarah Saunders Caruthers (1807–1870).

To John Robb

Novbr. 24th. 1831—

The President with his respects to Mr Robb, chief Clerk in the War Department, requests, so soon as his leisure will permit, to have made a fair & exact copy of the charges & specifications on file in the Department, made by Major Clark late a paymaster in the army of the U. States, against Colo. Towson, now paymaster Genl and furnish the President with the same

AN, DNA-RG 107 (M222-30). AN draft, DLC (40). Robb replied on November 25 (below). Satterlee Clark (c1784–1848) had been dismissed as an Army paymaster in 1824 for malfeasance and mishandling of funds. Calhoun was then secretary of war and Nathan Towson paymaster general. On January 29, 1827, Towson testified in Calhoun's defense before a House committee investigating charges of corruption in Calhoun's awarding of a construction contract at the Rip Raps in 1818. Clark had helped foment the charges, and Towson's testimony mainly reviewed the circumstances of his dismissal (*HRRep* 79, 19th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 152–56, Serial 159). On February 22, 1827, Clark wrote Secretary of War James Barbour (1775–1842), accusing Towson of swearing falsely and demanding his arrest (DNA-RG 107, M221-105). Barbour refused on February 23, saying that Clark's charge was loosely worded and unsupported by evidence, and should have been directed to a civil rather than military authority (DNA-RG 107, M6-12). Clark replied on February 27, enclosing "Charges and Specifications" against Towson, dismissing Barbour's objections, and insisting he was "bound, by law" to arrest him. Barbour had also sent a copy of his February 23 letter to Towson, who replied the same day. Towson branded the charges "infamous" and Clark "notoriously base," and himself requested a court of inquiry to clear his name (DNA-RG 107, M221-105). Barbour declined the request as unnecessary on February 24 (DNA-RG 107, M6-12).

From James Alexander Hamilton

New York, November 24, 1831.

Dear Sir:

I had the pleasure to-day to receive your letter of the 21st inst., referring to passages of Mr. Rhinds to me.

When I inclosed the letter to you, I did not think it worth my while to comment upon this further evidence of the improper spirit he had so frequently manifested during my interviews with him in relation to the horses, and I therefore did not refer particularly to this part of his letter.

I know not what he refers to when he speaks of facts that he had anxiously studied to conceal from the public; when there were no facts within my knowledge connected with his service under the Administration which required concealment, except his shuffling attempts to retain the horses as his private property after he had in an official letter, addressed to the Secretary of State, declared that he was ready to release to the Government all his title and interest in them.

I believe this was intended as a threat to induce the administration to settle his claim without delay—the expedient of a weak and vulgar mind. I have the honor to be, with great respect, Your obedient servant.

Printed, *Reminiscences of James A. Hamilton*, p. 233 (18-1485). Hamilton enclosed this letter in another to AJ the next day (below). Rhind had written Hamilton from Constantinople in September, complaining that the government had not repaid his expenses for the Arabian horses beyond what they had brought at auction. Rhind said that a further refusal "would compel me to disclose facts *which you know it has been my anxious wish to conceal from the public*" (Hamilton *Reminiscences,* pp. 233–34).

From James Alexander Hamilton

November 25, 1831.

Dear Sir:

The inclosed letter, in reply to yours of the 21st instant, is written in such form as to be made public if it should be necessary. From my intercourse with Mr. R. in relation to the horses, I very soon found out that he did not observe a very strict regard for the truth, and that it was necessary to be extremely guarded with him. He made various statements of what you and Mr. Van Buren had promised him, the particulars of which I do not now recollect, but which I was satisfied, from other parts of his statements, his letters, and their relation to other facts within my knowledge, could not be true. If you will send me a copy of his letter I will write to him referring to that part of his letter and endeavor to ascertain what he has relation to as requiring to be concealed. With sincere regard, your friend and servant.

Printed, *Reminiscences of James A. Hamilton*, p. 233 (18-1486). Hamilton wrote Rhind on December 7, reproving his language and saying that until Rhind explained himself, Hamilton would oppose paying his claim for the horses (Hamilton *Reminiscences*, pp. 233–34).

From John Robb

Department of War,
Nov. 25. 1831

Sir:

In obedience to your request, I have the honor to enclose a copy of the charge, preferred, by Major Clarke against Col Towson, Pay Master Genl; also, copies of letters from Secretaries, Barbor and Eaton, to Major Clarke, and his answer to the former.

You will perceive in Major Eaton's letter it is stated, "The charges and specifications which accompanied your communication to the Secretary of War, and which, you say have not been withdrawn by you, cannot be found. They are not on the files of the Department. It is of course not in my power to furnish a copy as you have desired."

It is due to Major Eaton to say, that this mistake *must* have originated with the Clerk, (Mr Addison,) who was at *that* time in charge of these records.[1] If he had diligently examined his record book, he could not fail to have found them, as *I*, laid my hands upon them, in less than ten minutes, after commencing the search. I have the honor to be Very Respectfully Your Obd. Serv

John Robb
Chief Clerk

[Endorsed by AJ:] letters from Major Clark to the Secretary of War inclosing charges against Col N. Towson paymaster of the army & other letters on the same subject, to be carefully filed with my papers. A. J.

ALS, DLC (40). AL draft, DNA-RG 107 (M222-30). Clark had written Eaton on January 28, 1830, asking for copies of his February 1827 exchange with Barbour and the charges and specifications he had submitted against Towson (DNA-RG 107, M221-110). Eaton wrote Clark on February 2, 1830, enclosing copies of the letters but reporting, as quoted here by Robb, that the charges and specifications could not be found (DNA-RG 107, M6-12).

1. James L. Addison (b. c1800) was a War Department clerk.

From Martin Van Buren

London Nov 25. 1831

My dear Sir

As I had seated myself to write you I was very agreeably surprised by the arrival of our friend Dr Randolph, on his way to Spain, from whom I was most happy to learn your restoration to health, & many particulars, of a very gratifying character, in regard to matters & things at home. He was disappointed in not finding a conveyance from Liverpool, as was expected, & will make the best of his way, & with the least delay, from here. I go tomorrow to Brighton, where the King is, & will, as is usual, pay my respects to him there, & return in five or six days, to London.[1] I see by the papers, that Com. Porter has exchanged the ratifications of the Treaty with the Porte, & that Don Miguel has agreed to make compensation. What glorious materials for a Message.[2] I think fortune will be more than usually unkind to me, if she does not make me some remuneration, for having cut me off from such truly gratifying and proud events. Washington Irving has been staying some weeks in my house, & will I hope continue to do so through the Winter. He leaves here for the U. States in the Spring. an intimate acquaintance with him, has satisfied me, that I was mistaken in supposing, that his literary ~~pursuits~~ occupation had given his mind a turn, unfavourable to practical business pursuits, & as I am not sure that you did not entertain the same impression, I think it but just to correct the error. So far from it, I have been both disappointed, and pleased, to find in him, not only great capacity, but an active and untiring disposition for ~~active~~ the prompt, and successful discharge of business. If an opportunity should present itself in which you can employ him as Charges d Affaires, I am confident, that you may count with confidence, on his faithful discharge of the duties imposed upon him, and I am quite sure, that a truer american, or a more honest man does not live. Mr McLane is anxious to gratify him, in this respect, and can tell you all about him. Mr Irving is not pressing, so far from it, that my writing to you is not of his seeking. He would have accepted the mission to Naples, but is perfectly satisfied that it

was not offered to him, as he setts up no claims. If Mr Van Ness should ask to return next year, as I presume he will, & the state of our relations with that Country be such, as to render it allowable, to reduce our mission there to the rank of a Chargés; which it appears to me would be in all respects proper, if the subject of claims there, should before that time, be, in any way disposed of, Mr Irving would be the proper man for the place. He has resided there for many years, is well acquainted with the Spanish character, and has by his writings made, (what is very unusual,) a marked impression upon the favourable feelings of the men who constitute the Court. This has shewn itself in several acts of respect, & kindness to him; and I have no doubt that he would be able, to do more good there, under existing circumstances, than any other selection that could be made. Bear this in mind if you please if an opportunity should present itself to act upon it.[3]

We are in daily expectation of the Cholera, but have expected it so long that the alarm has in part subsided. It is agreed, on all hands, that cleanliness and *good living* are efficient, if not infallible antitdoes, & we think, (the want of an outfit to the contrary notwithstanding) improve them, & look with confidence to the arrival of the outfit in good time. We are very agreeably situated, & with occasional accounts of the happiness & success of our friends, will make out to pass our time very agreeably. Major Randolph (who dines with us to day,) is the bearer also, of the agreeable intelligence, that Miss Mary Lewis is to be married to Mr. Butler—assuming that it is in every respect a desirable match, I beg you to do me the favor to congratulate father, & daughter upon the event when it takes plasce.[4] The determination of the great powers to keep peace, appears to remain unshaken, although there is a speck of trouble afloat, in the refusal of the French Ambassador, to attend the Thanksgiving at St Petersburgh, for the fall of Warsaw, and the consequent order of the Russian Government, interdicting his appearance at the general reception of the Foreign Ministers by the Emperor. Such is the news of the morning but not official.[5] There is no doubt, but that the apprehensions of the effects of the spread of liberal principles, is the principal cause of the apparent harmony, which has hitherto been seen in the efforts of the principal to preserve the peace of Europe.

The motive derived from this consideration, is an imperative & overpowering one, and will, without doubt, continue, for a time to come, at least, to stifle all other views & wishes of a different character. I continue to be treated with the utmost kindness, & respect, by those who are connected with the Government here, & can, with entire confidence, assure you that there is no room for doubt, as to their disposition, to cherish the best relations with us, & to treat your administration with the utmost respect & liberality.

Remember me kindly to Major Donelson & the ladies & believe me to be yours affectionately

M. Van Buren

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (18-1489).

1. Philip G. Randolph, late chief clerk of the War Department, had been appointed to bear dispatches to Spain. Brighton Pavilion was a seaside royal residence.

2. David Porter exchanged ratifications of the commercial treaty with Turkey at Constantinople on October 5. AJ's third annual message on December 6 announced this pending event and also the anticipated resolution of American indemnity claims against Portugal over ship seizures in the Terceira blockade (Richardson, 2:550–51).

3. Cornelius P. Van Ness remained as minister to Spain until 1836. Washington Irving was later minister from 1842 to 1846.

4. In 1832 Mary Ann Lewis married Alphonse Pageot, secretary of the French legation in Washington.

5. In September Russian forces had captured Warsaw, quelling the Polish uprising that began in 1830. The *London Times* reported the diplomatic contretemps between France and Russia on November 25.

From John Randolph

Roanoke Nov. 27. 1831. Sunday

My dear Sir

The state of my health & some very unexpected & unpleasant disclosures in relation to my overseers (two of them at least) have prevented my writing as I intended & as I led you to expect by my few hasty lines from Charlotte C. H. on Tuesday last. As it is my present full intention to be in Washington about the beginning of the second week of the ensuing session I defer until I shall have the pleasure of a verbal communication with you all further discussion of the subjects touched upon in my penultimate letter. When I wrote it I was not apprized that the chief complainant was a disappointed office seeker in the person of a near &, although very amiable, incapable relative

I have given up Florida. My lungs are yet uninfected & I am satisfied that the top of the Allegheny would suit me better than any country of Lagoons & ponds & swamps & alligators & musqutoes & ticks & sand flies. Hoping soon to take you by the hand, I remain with the truest regard Dr Sir most faithfully yours

J. R of Roanoke

The rains of yesterday & last night & this morning have prevented my setting out for Cumberld. Court which meets to morrow. To me the disappointment is a severe one. My health does not mend.

ALS, DLC (40).

From John James Flournoy and James Terrill

28. Nov. 1831—

Your remonstrants, inhabitants of Boone county Kentucky beg leave to state to your Excellency, that great losses are daily sustained by the people of the western Slave States, from the elopements of their Negros to his Britanic Majesty's provinces of Canady. We apprehend that our representatives in Congress are not sufficiently attentive to this *great* & growing evil. Therefore, we venture to approach you sir with our Petition. We are apprised that in official matters, our address should be through the medium of the Secretary of State—but do not know whether such rotine *[sho]*uld be observed in this case. If we err in this respect, we trust that your Excellencies goodness will excuse us—

Our confidence in you, is not only undiminished, but greatly enhanced by the signal success that has attended your negotiations with foreign Powers, as well as the prosperity that seems to wait on your Administration generally.

Our Minister is already in England. No new expence will, we presume be incured. We pry you that you instruct him to endeavour to procure some means whereby we may recover our lost property. Say, an application by the owners to the Governors of either of the provinces for a Warrant, directed to all Magistrates, Sheriffs &c &c to aid & assist such owners in the recovery of such Negro or Negros.

We ourselves are individual sufferers in this case. We shall not go about to procure signers we deem it unnecessary—every body would subscribe, unless indeed some phanaticks—who might object.

We do not presume to instruct~~ion~~, but beg leave to make Our grievances known to you, & have ventured to offer a suggestion. We beg leave to enquire of you, whether an immediate arrangement could not be made with the Govenors of those Provinces, embracing the object of our petition without an application to the King—Or Brittish Government Generally. We fully believe that the great mass of the people of the West (especially the Slave States) would favour this petition. And even Cincinnatti are becoming so displeased with its colored population that a New purging of the town of that Class of People is strongly talked of, as we are informed. The people of Canada themselves we have reason to believe, are becoming weary respecting them & have petitioned their Legislature, for a redress of this greivan[ce.]

That Your Excellency would please to turn your thoughts for a moment to this subject, is our request & adopt such measures as you my think best is our Petition[.] We beg leave to subscribe ourselves your fellow Citizens & most Obt. Servants

John J. Flournoy
James Terrill

[Endorsed by AJ:] On the subject of our fugitive Slaves to Canada—to be sent to our minister at London—A. J.

LS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-71). Flournoy (1770–1835) and Terrill were slaveholders in Boone County, Ky. Terrill wrote AJ again on December 8, and AJ wrote Martin Van Buren on December 17 (both below).

From Benjamin B. Cooper

Near Headdonfield Novr the 30th 1831

D Sir

I received yours of the 7th instant in answer to my letter of the first: contrary to my expectation, Boliver was not recevd by the company, as was anticipated therein—not on account of any thing in the Committee contrary to their promise, when the horse was taken by them from me to Moorestown. As the general oppinion was that the matter was settled and Boliver ~~and~~ was to be taken by the Company: in this County Gloucester resides about 50 of the 100 members, all in favour of taking Boliver, shares was in demand and could not have been had under 30 Dollars, not one attended the meeting from this County, excepting myself and Dr. Hendry that I requested to go up and see his friend Dr Spencer our President &c: when I got there I found about 20 members amongst which was a Cornelius Thompson of Evesham the owner of a Grandcolt of Old Messenger, a *Stud* that told the people that Boliver was so affected in his glands and mind, that he could not get a colt, some of which, was as simple in believing it, as he was in telling: and when the question was put: Mr Vandrivre said he thought the president should have made an abatement of $500 in the price on account of his *[veseing]* &c: that the committee had been at much expence, and found it more difficult to procure a blooded horse of good sise, form, and action, than he or they could have apprehend, and therefore he should vote for the companys taking Boliver.[1]

Mr. Doughton stated that he attended the Baltimore races, with a view of getting some information as to fine horses; that the price was far beyond the $2000 limited by the Constitution, ~~and~~ that the company could not do so well as to take him at the Presidents offer; that he had improved much since he first saw him, was a good keeper, had been to two mares, ~~and~~ was a horse of good condition, and the sise the country wanted.

Mr ~~Spencer~~ Shiver stated the difficulty of procuring a horse ~~and~~ was such that he should vote for the Company taking him[2]

Dr Spencer red the report of the Committee to the meeting of the last year, and stated the difficulty, and time taken, to procure a horse by them ~~and~~ expence &c: and he should vote for the Companys taking the Presidents horse Boliver. All of which was without a reply or word said by those opposed to his being taken by the company: when the question

was that they should vote by rising, I think Nine rose for Boliver and eleven against him, they then appointed a new Committee, of which Mr Doughton of the former Committee is one, Cornelius Thompson and Samuel Burrough the other's Doughton told them at once he would not go, and applyed to keep Boliver, the same evening for the next season, at the stable where he now is; and where Mark Anthony the Salem horse was kept the last season.[3] Mr Burrough will not go: Mr Thompson will not: his object is to kil all horse Companys, or as he says they will kill all horses not held by companys, that they have an undue influance, and should be put down: &c

I am inclined to believe that the Company will not meet again: and Eclips lightfoot the Gloucester horse, and Boliver will be the only horses in west Jersey of note, to stand for the next season, I was informed yesterday that Mark Anthony the Salem horse would be sent off, as all the good mares in the County had been to him—the country full of his colts, and they wished to put to some other horse.[4]

I am inclined to believe that Boliver will have as many mares as he can cover, if he is put at the price of Eclips Lightfoot, and what Mark Anthony has stood for—fifteen Dollars the Season, and twenty five Dollars to insure a foal. I have no doubt at these prices he will meet the owners from 1000 to 1500 Dollrs, as I believe he will cover as many mares over 100 as will pay all expences, tho am fearful at 20 Dollars the season it woul set the current against him, and prove injurious in the end.

Many of the members of the New Jersey Association for improving the breed of horses, feel dissattisfied that the company is like to go down have applyed to me to open books, and make up a new company, to receive Boliver at 2000 Dollrs of which I informed them that I could not do without the Presidents approbation, I believe that a company might be made up to take Boliver at 2000 Ds between this and the first of Febry or March, possibly in One or two weeks. Dr Spencer, Mr Vandiver ~~and~~ Mr Shiver and Doughton—also agree to take shares in him, (and many others) and assist in making up the company: I have drew the articles of a Constitution and send for your consideration and determination of the course you think most advisable in this matter.

You have in detail what has transpired, and the prospect before us: Boliver tho rejected by about 10 or 12 interested men to 80 or 90 of the company inclined to take him, he is not killed—or do I believe he will want for friends to make him a season or to be admitted into the United Association. Most Respectfully your Sincere Friend & Obet Set

Benjn. B. Cooper

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr. Cooper private—on the subject of Bollivar A. J. answered, giving Mr Cooper power to let a company have him if he thought proper—& repelling the statement that he is not a sure foal

getter—and if he did prove such I would make a compliment of the horse to him or the company A. J.

ALS, DLC (40). Explaining that he had been confined by illness, Cooper sent this letter to AJ on December 27 with another written on December 22 (DLC-40). He also enclosed articles of agreement he had drawn up on December 1 for a new "*United States Association* for improving the Breed of Horses, and purchasing the high bred Horse Boliver, at the sum of Two thousand Dollars," and reported good progress in selling shares (DLC-40; 18-1533). Efforts to conclude the sale of Bolivar continued into 1833.

1. Bowman Hendry (1773–1838) was a Haddonfield physician. John Spencer lived in Gloucester County and Cornelius D. Thompson (1779–1868) in Burlington County. Old Messenger was a blood horse imported to the U.S. in 1788.

2. William Doughten was an innkeeper in Moorestown, and Josiah Shiver lived in Gloucester County.

3. Mark Anthony, a thoroughbred raised by John Randolph, had stood at Salem since 1827.

4. Eclipse Lightfoot was foaled in 1825 and sold at age four to a New Jersey company for $1,500.

From Elizabeth Hatch et al.

The memorial of the ladies of the town of Newbern respectfully sheweth unto your Excellency that they have heard with deep regret, that your Excellency has ordered the detachment of troops stationed here under the command of Capt. Whiting to be removed. Your memorialists cannot believe that all danger is over, or that the temporary tranquility, which has been engendered by the presence of the United States' troops can be permanent, especially as the existence of an insurrectionary plot, has been judicially established, and admitted by the confessions of the accused. The moral effect produced by this company, has not alone been felt here, but has extended itself throughout the surrounding country, begetting tranquility and security and producing a due subordination, among the slaves, which we fear will expire, when the coercion, and restraint, of this moral force is removed. The confessions of the criminal slaves at Wilmington, clearly evinced their determination, to rise against the Whites, so soon as the United States' troops should be removed, and judging of the future by the past, combined with the highly incensed state, of their feelings, from the late developments, and the consequent severity of treatment, which they have received, we cannot expect that they will adopt any other course, than that which is suggested, by the most malignant and fiendlike passion, of revenge. The section of country in which we live, being insulated, and cut up, by water courses, thus affording security and protection, to evil disposed slaves, demands the assistance of foreign aid.

North Carolina has always been loyal to the Union, and contributed her quota of arms, and money for its support, but we believe has enjoyed fewer of its advantages, and received less of its patronage, and support, than any other of its Sister States.

We trust the gallant defender of his Country's rights, will not turn, a deaf ear to this appeal, and we feel assured, that in thus gratifying the natural urbanity, & chivalry, of his disposition, he will at the same time, have discharged an essential, and highly important duty, to the vital interest of this section of the Union. The undersigned therefore most respectfully solicit your Excellency, to permit the troops already here, to remain, beleiving that by so doing, you may prevent unnecessary bloodshed, and insure peace and tranquility to our community.

Elizabeth Hatch.
Eliza B Powell
Mary H Gaynor
E. B. Davis
Mary Nelson

[One hundred sixty additional signatures follow.]

DS, DNA-RG 108 (18-1165; M1635-2). AJ replied on December 5 (below). Elizabeth Hatch (1804–1864) was a slaveholder in New Bern, N.C. On August 27, five days after Nat Turner's rebellion, 48 citizens of New Bern had appealed to the War Department for a company of federal troops (DNA-RG 107, M221-111). Cass had replied giving his assent on September 5, and on September 6 an artillery company under Captain Fabius Whiting (1792–1842) had been ordered to New Bern from Fortress Monroe (DNA-RG 107, M6-13; DNA-RG 94, M565-8).

December

Bank Book for December

Decbr 1rst. 1831	check to Thomas B. Griffin for waiting maid.[1]	250—
Decbr 6th. 1831—	check in the name of A. Justa for expence for this sum	989 38—
Decembr. 8th. 1831.	Check to Col. Stewart of Va. for servant Boy—named Adam[2]	$420.00
Decembr. 9th 1831	Check to W B Lewis to Mr. Toland for wine[3]	$589.00
Decembr 12th. 1831.	Check for A. Jackson	$100.00
Decbr. 14th.	Check to A. J Donelson for	304
Do. Do	for A. Jackson	96
Decbr 20th 1831—	check to A. Jackson junr for this sum	100
Decbr 21rst.	check to M. A. Justa, for past expences of Debr instant & to be credited in this months accpt	200
Decbr 22 1831	check for 339.20—to pay Taylors bill for A. Jackson junr—$250.75—for self 17. for A. J. Hutchings in all $88.50[4]	339.20

D, DLC (78). The third, fourth, and fifth entries are in AJ Jr.'s hand, the rest in AJ's.

1. Thomas B. Griffin was a Washington shoemaker.
2. John Gibbons Stuart (c1786–1835) lived in King George County, Va.
3. Philadelphia merchant Henry Toland.
4. Washington clothiers Tucker & Thompson had billed AJ Jr. $250.75 for purchases beginning February 2, and AJ $88.50 for purchases beginning August 16 (Bassett, 4:388).

From John Jolly

Great Father,

By a Council of the Cherokee nation on Arkansas, which adjourned on the 6th. of November last, I was authorized, as Principal Chief, to appoint a Delegation of Chiefs for the purpose of sending them to Washington City, with such instructions as I might think best for my nation now

residing on Arkansas and for such of their brethern as may hereafter join them from the Old nation.

I as Principal Chief have well considered the whole matter, and have appointed Major Alexander Saunders, Black Coat 2nd Chief of the nation, Capt Rain Crow, Capt. John Rogers Junr, and Mr. Andrew M. Vann. Edward Hicks Secretary, and Capt. James Rogers Interpreter of the Delegation.

1st. My instructions to the Delegation are that they shall endeavour to have secured to this nation, that portion of the annuity which shall hereafter be sent and paid to this nation according to the proportion of Emigrants which have arrived here since the last Treaty, or that may arrive by the commencement of each year hereafter.

2nd. The Delegation are instructed to make such arrangements with the Government as will secure to this nation, a proportion of any advantages which may hereafter accrue to the old nation, according to the number of Emigrants which may have been received in this nation since the Treaty of 1828.[1]

3rd. The Delegation are instructed to use their greatest exertions to have a just compensation made for Stock, Horses, Cows &c paid to the nation, which has been destroyed by citizens of the United States, in consequence of the Cherokees removal from their former residence. This is presented to the President with pain, because, families have been made poor, and the lives and blood of two Cherokees have been taken by the White people, when trying to obtain their stock, and no satisfaction, has yet been made for the many injuries, which my people have suffered.[2]

4th. The Delegation are directed to solicit a literal fulfilment of the Treaty of 1828; and one point under said Treaty is for the Cherokee nation to be possessed of all lands and improvements within their marked limits (Cantonment Gibson only excepted). By Treaty with the Osages in 1825, seven Reservations were made to certain half breed Osages and laid off for them on the East side of Neosho River. These lye within the limits of the Cherokee nation, and so long as they remain the property of Individuals it will subject the Cherokees to many troubles, and may lead to much unhappiness.[3]

5th. The Delegation are authorized to act in all things of interest to this nation, as they may think best, in making and signing Treaties, and the same will be binding upon the nation—Unless the same should extend to selling or exchanging land, or altering the lines of this nation specified by the Treaty of 1828, all which is expressly forbidden.

Given under my hand &c December 1st. 1831.

John Jolly his X mark P. Chief

We the undersigned delegates do hereby certify that Black Coat and John Rodgers declined coming on, and John Drew has been appointed to act

as delegate, and Thos. Murry Junr. was also appointed by the Pl. cheifs to aid and assist the delegation as Secretary.

26th. March 1832.
A Sanders his X mark
Raincrow his X mark
A M. Vann
Edwd. Hicks Secty
Jas. Rodgers. Interpt.

DS and Copy, DNA-RG 75 (M234-78). Copies, DNA-RG 46 (18-1537). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 3, pp. 4–5, 276–77 (Serial 246). John Jolly or Oolooteka (1776–1838) was principal chief of the Western Cherokees. John Rogers Jr. (1779–1846) and Black Coat (d. 1835) declining their appointment, delegates Alexander Saunders (or Sanders), Rain Crow, Andrew M. Vann (1804–1842), Edward Hicks, James Rogers, John Drew (1796–1865), and Thomas Murray Jr. arrived in Washington in March 1832. Joined by two Tennessee Cherokees, they presented Jolly's address to Secretary of War Cass on March 26. Cass replied to Jolly for AJ on April 11, 1832 (*SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess.: vol. 3, pp. 275–76, Serial 246; vol. 2, pp. 808–13, Serial 245).

1. The 1819 Cherokee Treaty of Washington had apportioned two-thirds of the annual Cherokee annuity to the Eastern Cherokees and one-third to the Western (*Indian Treaties*, 2:179). Cass's April 11 reply to Jolly pledged that, in line with the present policy of distributing payments directly to individuals, AJ would work to proportion the annuity to actual numbers east and west, and also to secure their equal share of advantages to individual Eastern Cherokees emigrating in advance of the nation as a whole.

2. On June 2, Peter A. Carnes had reported to Jolly the murders of Cherokees Ball Ketcher and Town House Killer while they were retrieving stray stock in Arkansas Territory (DNA-RG 75, M234-77). Cass's April 11, 1832, reply to Jolly said that Western Cherokee agent George Vashon would assist in assembling proper proofs for Cherokee compensation claims whose payment was authorized by existing laws, and in preparing appeals to Congress for other claims.

3. An 1825 Osage treaty had reserved square-mile sections of land on the east side of the Neosho for several families of "half-breeds." The 1828 Western Cherokee treaty reserved for the U.S. twelve square miles at Cantonment Gibson, otherwise promising to remove from the new Cherokee domain all whites "and also all others, should there be any there, who may be unacceptable to the Cherokees" (*Indian Treaties*, 2:218, 289). Cass's April 11 reply to Jolly confessed that "I do not see that we can do any thing for you" to dissolve the Osage reservations, which were based on "prior claims," but that the government would limit their intrusiveness by prohibiting their being purchased or occupied by whites.

From John Henry Eaton and John Coffee

Choctaw Agency 3d. Dec 1831

Sir

Genl. Coffee & myself are here; but have yet done nothing The high waters & bad weather have prevented the arrival of the Indians. The chickasaws are at hand—Coffee passed thro their nation, and the consequence was the smenning of many Creeks During the ensuing week it may be in our power to make known to you if any thing be practicable. I greatly distrust any benefit from our mission as a large number of the

Indians are gone over the river. Two chiefs are behind Mushulatubbee & Laflore the former is at hand—the latter is expected in two or three days. An express has gone for him

The Country is full of speculators on Indian titles. We have a letter from Susan Colbert the seperated wife of James to whom a reservation was accorded.[1] Other similar complaints will come before us. We shall forward them on, that they may be placed on file in the war office, for examination, & your consideration hereafter, when all those sales shall before you for ratification To consider of such applications, one at a time as they come in would give much trouble & inconvenience. A better plan will be to have them all filed in the war office, & hereafter when the titles all come up for consideration, to have a report from the Indian bureau—with great respect

J. H Eaton
Jno. Coffee

[Endorsed by AJ:] The within is refered to the War Department to remain on file in the Indian Bureau A. J.

LS in Eaton's hand, DNA-RG 75 (M234-169). Eaton and Coffee's mission to negotiate a Chickasaw homeland among the Choctaws did not succeed. The Chickasaws signed a separate cession and removal treaty with Coffee in October 1832.

1. A supplement to the 1830 Choctaw treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek had granted a square-mile reservation to Susan James Colbert (1783–1863), former wife of Chickasaw chief James Isaac Colbert (c1768–1842). She had petitioned AJ for permission to sell it on March 28, 1831. Before the sale could be approved, she sought to have it rescinded (*SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 3, pp. 194–201, Serial 246).

From Amos Kendall

(Private.)

Washington December 3d 1831

Dear Sir,

Presuming from a conversation with Mr. Blair, that you did not understand what I said to you the other day in relation to my supposed interest in the Globe precisely as I intended, I have deemed it my duty to lay before you the whole subject.

In 1830 your friends here became deeply sensible of the necessity of establishing another press in this City as a resort for the defence of the administration in case of the defection of the Telegraph which was then seriously apprehended. While we were casting about for a suitable Editor, Maj. Barry mentioned Mr. Blair and I opened a correspondence with him on the subject. There was some risk in an attempt to raise up a new establishment, and Mr. Blair naturally wanted assurances on which he could rely with some confidence, holding out a reasonable prospect of success.

After recapitulating the prospects and probabilities, I offered to share with him the responsibilities of the attempt and incur jointly with him the chances of loss and profit. That in its commencement the paper would be a losing concern, I never doubted; but I thought that in a few months it would defray expences. I even thought it possible, that circumstances might induce me to resign my office and become a partner of Mr. Blair.

I wrote much for the Globe during the first months of its existence—all the notices of last year's message and many other articles. For a time the prospect of its becoming profitable or defraying its expences, was very doubtful; but the conduct of Mr. Calhoun, the dissolution of the cabinet and the course of the Telegraph, gave it a subscription and patronage which virtually relieved me from all responsibility. I had paid nothing and received nothing on account of the establishment, and thus far felt myself recompensed for my responsibility and labor by the success which had attended the establishment of the paper and its usefulness in defending your administration and character during scenes of unparalled treachery.

I think it was early in the summer, that Mr. Blair in conversation with me, suggested that it might not be considered proper or politic, that I should possess an interest in his establishment while holding an office under the government, and that it might be better for him to pay me some consideration in case I should continue to write for his paper. No definite understanding, however, was formed between us, as the establishment then brought in barely enough to meet its expences. In September last, however, I voluntarily relinquished the original understanding between us without any consideration whatever. As I had done much to build up a valuable establishment, Mr. Blair assured me that he did not desire nor expect, that I would continue to devote my leisure moments to his service, particularly as he needed aid and thought mine would be valuable to him, without an adequate compensation. As I had no interest in the establishment and could receive neither a dollar more nor a dollar less on account of the patronage bestowed upon it by the government, I did not perceive that there was any impropriety in my continuing to write for it, or in receiving such compensation as Mr. Blair thought my contributions were worth.

But, my dear sir, I *have received nothing from Mr. Blair*, and if you think it improper, *I will receive nothing*. I know very well, that had I not stepped forward and encountered the responsibility, the Globe would not have been established, and at the time of the explosion last Spring, you and your friends, so far as newspapers are concerned, would have been at the mercy of enemies and traitors. I have the vanity to believe also, that some portion of the efficiency of the Globe has been derived from my contributions. But Mr. Blair is very competent to manage his own paper with as much energy and effect as any one man can, and if there be thought to be the least impropriety in my receiving any thing from him, I will cease to write for him, unless it be such occasional matter as it may be my *pleasure* to write.

But for my private circumstances I should never have thought of encountering the labor I have in writing for the Globe, or of accepting any compensation. With a wife and five children, I am very poor.[1] If I were to die this moment, it would take all I have on earth, disposed of as it would be, to pay my debts. Partly by political warfare, but more from an unfortunate undertaking at a most unfortunate time, I had become deeply involved when I accepted my present office. Not being able to sell my property in the West, my debts have pressed upon me ever since I have been here, and do still, with a weight which often puts me to inconvenience and sometimes makes me momentarily unhappy I devote my salary to their payment, and in my anxiety to do justice to my creditors, stint my family in the comforts of life and deny them its elegancies almost entirely My feeble health admonishes me, that at no distant day I may leave them to the charities of a world in which I have not found justice. Next to my obligations to my God and country, I feel it my duty to provide the means to educate and raise my children until they are able to earn a subsistence by the labor of their own hands. If by devoting to my pen some of those hours which others spend in luxurious dinners and rounds of parties, I could earn a little to aid me in this object, I did not perceive that it infringed any principle or was in any way deserving of censure. In the case of Mr. Noah, I understood that you did not object to his writing for the newspapers; but only to his standing before the public as an Editor, thereby carrying the influence of his office along with the productions of his pen. I did not perceive nor do I now, that the receiving of compensation, can make the fact of writing either more or less objectionable.[2]

But owing every thing I am in public life to your kindness, I cheerfully yield every thing connected with it to your opinion. It is not for my own sake, that I have taken any part in political affairs since I have been in office, and nothing will relieve me more than to retire from them altogether. I never took any pleasure in them, except so far as I thought I could benefit my country or my friends. Quietly to perform the duties of my office, ~~and~~ to enjoy the society of my family and friends, and if I thought proper, devote my leisure hours to subjects wholly unconnected with the politics of the day or any other irritating topic, would give me unspeakable delight. By my writing I bring upon myself torrents of abuse from my enemies, and when my friends think it best that I should be silent, I shall have no motive to make a sacrifice of time and feeling which the ~~compensation~~ amount expected from Mr. Blair, four times told, could never compensate.

I have written this letter because from a remark made by you to Mr. Blair, I suppose you understood my declaration that I had received nothing from him, as meaning that I had no expectation of receiving any thing hereafter. Indeed, I had the impression, that I told you that if I continued to devote my time to writing for his paper, I expected he would make me some compensation for it; but if I did, it is plain that you did not

understand me. I remember well your having interrupted me before I had finished what I intended to say, by an expression of kindness, and by then changing the subject. By this letter you will understand the matter *just as it is*, and by your opinion will I be guided.

I am also willing that you should show this letter to any or all the members of your cabinet whose opinions as to what is right or politic would have great weight with me, although I do not admit the right of any man but yourself to inquire whether I write for the newspapers or whether I am paid any thing therefor. With the highest respect Yours &c.

Amos Kendall

Memo—

The undersigned remarks on this letter which he read to the president, that Mr. K invited him to Washington & assured him that he would be sustained by the President & some of the Departments. That it was his confidence in Mr. K's promises which alone induced him to give up his employments in Kentuckey & undertake the Establishment. He considered in coming to Washington that Mr. K was under weighty responsibilies to him which he made good with the utmost fidelity & zeal by interesting himself for the support of the press. That a partnership was also contemplated through an arrangement which would carry on the printing through Mr. Greer's Job Press which fell through early in the winter in consequence of an understanding between Mr. K & the undersigned that it would not do for them to obtain the public patronage and hire the execution of it for one third the profit pocketing the other two thirds as a retail profit. The arrangement at first contemplated was thus relinquished by common consent & the present Globe establishment built up on the sole responsibility of the Editor. Under the original arrangement as at first intended Mr. K: was brought under no pecuniary liabilies to the publisher of the paper or for materials[3]

F P Blair

ALS, NjP-Blair-Lee Papers (mAJs). Blair quoted this letter in a letter he wrote to Kendall on December 24, 1842, disputing Kendall's claim of credit for founding the *Globe*. On September 30, 1831, Blair had proposed to Kendall to pay him $800 a year to write for the *Globe*, or more if its subscription increased, to start October 1. Kendall had returned a note declining the arrangement, saying that he saw no impropriety in it but that it might "embarrass the President" (NjP).

1. Kendall's wife was Jane Kyle Kendall (1807–1864).

2. In 1829 AJ had appointed Mordecai Noah, editor of the *New-York Enquirer*, as customs surveyor for New York City. Noah had then sold the *Enquirer* to James Watson Webb, editor of the *Morning Courier*. He continued to write for the new combined paper, the *Morning Courier and New-York Enquirer*.

3. The *Globe* had initially been printed by Washington job printer William Greer (c1780–1861). The plan was for Greer to also receive the printing of the government offices and share the profits of it with Kendall, compensating him for his labors. This arrangement was given up for appearance of impropriety, and Blair had raised funds to purchase a press and begin publishing the *Globe* himself in May 1831.

From Mary Ann Lewis

New York December 3d 1831

My dear Uncle,

A thousand thanks for your kind offer which I accept with pleasure at least for a short time but I am affraid the house will be too full if so I beg you will tell me and I will go and stay with Papa. He wrote me that if I wished it he could get me a very nice room at Bronaghs where he is going to stay or is staying.[1] I shall be in Washington the last of this month when I shall again have the pleasure of seeing those that I love. Remember me kindly to all the family including Andrew and his wife and accept for yourself the best love and wishes for a continuance of your health & happiness from your affna

Mary

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mary Ann. L. to be filed. A J

ALS, DLC (40).

1. Elizabeth Hope Mitchell Bronaugh (1792–1849), wife of Treasury clerk Jeremiah William Bronaugh (1779–1856), maintained a Georgetown boardinghouse. William B. Lewis had previously lived with AJ at the White House.

Andrew Jackson Donelson to Duff Green

December 3, 1831.

Mr. Donelson's compliments to Gen. Green, and informs him that Mr. Blair will be instructed to furnish to him and to the other proprietors of papers in this city, impressions of the Message in time for it to be set up the evening before its delivery, under a pledge that it is not to go out of their offices until the hour appointed for its delivery to Congress.

Printed, *United States' Telegraph*, December 6, 1831 (mAJs). *Niles*, December 10 (19-0001).

Duff Green to Andrew Jackson Donelson

Washington, 3d Dec. 1831.

Mr. Green acknowledges the receipt of Maj. Donelson's note of this date, informing him that "Mr. Blair will be instructed to furnish to him and to the other proprietors of papers in this city, impressions of the Message in time for it to be set up the evening before its delivery;" and informs Mr. D., that his application was made as Printer to Congress, and

not as a "proprietor of a paper;" and asks to remind Maj. D., that unless the Message is furnished at an earlier date, it will be impossible to furnish the two Houses of Congress with the usual number of copies as soon as it has been heretofore done.

Printed, *United States' Telegraph*, December 6, 1831 (mAJs). *Niles*, December 10 (19-0008). Green had been elected official printer to both House and Senate for the ensuing Twenty-second Congress.

Andrew Jackson Donelson to Duff Green

December 3, 1831.

Sir:

I have submitted your second application for a copy of the Message to the President, who instructs me to say in reply to it, that he does not consider you, as Printer to Congress, entitled to the Message, as a public document, until it becomes such by being delivered to that body.

As editor and proprietor of a newspaper, you are placed on the same footing with others in the city, by the instructions which have been given to Mr. Blair, and which you have quoted in your note.

Respectfully, yours, &c.

AND. J. DONELSON.

Printed, *United States' Telegraph*, December 6, 1831 (mAJs). *Niles*, December 10 (19-0002).

From David Burford

Nashville, Decr. 4th. 1831

Dear Genl,

Your very kind letter dated on the 28th day of July last in answer to mine of the 3rd of the same month came to hand in due time, and for which favour be pleased to receive my sincere thanks. In your letter you authorised me to shew it, if I thought proper, to Gen. Daniel S. Donelson, Gen. Desha, Gen. Hall and such others as Gen. Desha might have made erroneous impressions on &c. I did not see neither of those gentlemen before my arrival here in September last, and the first of those gentlemen which I see was Gen. Donelson, I invited him to my room and also Mr Allen of Smith County and of the House of Representatives, and in the *presance of Mr Allen* I informed him of what I had understood that he should have said of your preferance for Mr Burtons election over Gen. Hall, I stated that it was reported in Sumner and Smith Counties that he (Donelson) should have stated that you (Gen. Jackson) prefered Mr Burton to Gen. Hall, that you wished Burton elected and that you had

requested him (Donelson) when at Washington to support Mr Burton in preferance to Gen. Hall Gen. Donelsons reply was in substance this—that he had stated *in substance* what I mentioned as above, as having come from him, but that he was not certain that he had used the precise language, but that it was substantially correct—I then stated that I had written you upon that as well as some other subjects and that you stated in answer that it was untrue, that you had not, neither directly nor indirectly interfeared in the election between Mr Burton and Gen. Hall; I then asked him how the conversation was brought about betwen you and him, when he in reply stated that it was a private conversation—I again asked him your language upon that subject; he then stated that while at Washington he received the "Gallatin Journal which he shew you in which there was a statment of the affray between Desha and Burton, and that from your remarks and conversation upon that occasion, *he infered that you was in favour of Burton*—he also went on to state that he was excited by Burtons friends and from the course which he (Burton) had pursued, stating at the same time that Burton had been in the habit of reading extracts of letters from you calculated to make the impression upon the minds of many that you wished him (Burton) elected, and that he had in conversation also, endevoured to make that impression upon the publick, and attempted to justify his course by the one which he stated that Burton had taken as above stated. I stated also that it was verry reasonable to suppose that you had no verry kind feelings towards Gen. Desha, that you had known his course for some time and that I supposed your remarks must have been intended moore for Desha than Hall, as appeared from his own shewing. I did not shew him your letter, nor did he ask to see it; and I will now state the reasons why I did not shew it to him—it was this, in your letter you go into the reasons for the dissolution of your late Cabinet, the course which *J. C. Calhoun* has pursued, which I did not think proper to shew to either Donelson or Desha, beleiving then, as now, that neither had any friendship for you, and least they might make an improper use of the information, such as might make it nessesary at some future time to publish the correspondance, for it should not be forgotten that it was about the time, or a little before, that Desha came out in his address to the publick against Major Eaton and as he was scarce of matter might have made some use of the letter. But while on this subject I must remind you of one fact, which is the reason assigned by Gen. Donelson for making this statment, to wit, that it was because he (Burton) had endevoured to make the impression upon the people of the District that you was in his favour, by reading, or pretending to read extracts of letters from you as well as by conversations to that effect. Now let us see how that was, did he contradict Burtons statment? no, no such thing, but to the contrary avered that what he seemed to think was not so when stated by Mr Burton was really true, and reather than disprove confirmed the statment. Now Sir how is this? who was to be effected by it? the answer is too plain—it must be

understood by all, it must have been to injure you, it could injure no one else—first with the publick, and secondly with Gen. Hall, and I suppose to induce Genl. Hall to favour the views of Mr Calhoun and his farther in law Govr. Branch I know Sir, that Gen. Donelson is a relation of yours but beleiving as I do and many others that he has not acted the part of a friend, but on the contrary that his course as well as that of Genl. Desha, was calculated, and as I then and now think was intended to injure you—hence I gave you the information, and purmit me to say that subsequent events particularly on the part of Genl. Desha has confirmed not only me but others in that opinion.

I will now briefly mention the purport of an interview between Genl. Desha and my self had upon the subject of the letter—in October last at a Party at *Mr Hills in this place*, Desha approached me in reather an abrupt maner, and observed that he considered it due to himself to demand of me the copy of a letter which he understood that I had written you in which he was mentioned. My reply was that I had not retained a copy but, that I was willing and ready to state to him the purport of it, so far at least as he was concerned or mentioned in it, and that if he wished it to give it to him in writing; I then stated briefly what the purport of the letter was as it related to him was, as to his having stated that Ingham & Branch was not invited to your Cabinet meetings, and that Van Buren and Eaton had undue influance over you, and that it was generally thought that you prefered Mr Van Buren for your successor &c; after which statment by me, he asked me if he had ever stated that to me, I told him he had, which he did not deny. He then observed that he supposed you ware verry thankfull to me for writing you on the subject and giving you the information; to which reply I merely stated that you treated my letter verry respectfully; he then went on briefly to confirm the statment which had been made, as to the understanding of the undue influance of Van Buren & Eaton over you &c &c; I have seen him since he looks cool at me. He is much mortifyed and shagreed, and well he may be, for since his letter to Duff Green, and his publication subsequently against Major Eaton he is wonderfully falen, indeed he can do you no injury here now.[1] It was only while he professed friendship for you and at the same time made you nothing but an instrument in the hands of others that he could do you harm. The publication of Major Eaton upon the subject of the dissolution of your late cabinet has placed the transaction in its proper light, and is a complete and erresistable refutation of Ingham, Branch, Berrian, Duff Green & Co's statments and misrepresentations, of which company I think from what I have seen Mr Calhoun should be conidered the head. The publication in the Globe of the 16th. ultimo over the signature of *Alexander Speer* it seems to me, places Mr Calhoun in a situation from which he cannot extricate himself, and one which no honest or honourable man should envy him for.[2] I shall barely mention to you that I mentioned to Genl. Hall the purport of your letter as respects your not having interfeared in his

election, *neither directly nor indirectly*, which appeared to be satisfactory to him. I consider him your friend, and always has been, although I think that not only Desha but Donalson wished to produce a differant feeling in his breast against you, but hope and beleive they have failed.

I hope you will excuse me when I write you upon another subject, and shall do so frankly and freely. On and about the meeting of the Legislature in September last, it was spoken of freely that Govenor Carroll would most likly receive the appointment of Minister to some of the South American States; what grounds there was for such rumor I know not, but that frankness which I hope shall always charracterise me requires me to say that I should regreat his receiving such an appointment myself, and I think your best friends would also dislike it. I will briefly give you my reasons which are these—first, I do not considder him in the light of your sincere friend, if he was or is how can you account for his intemacy with your enemies? how can you account for his protem appointments generally being taken from the ranks of those who are opposed to you? Surely you have nothing to fear from him here that he should be sent out of the way—then if he is not your friend at hart, and there is nothing to feare from him here, why deviate from your usual course while is office, as I have understood it to be—that of appointing your friends to office. I had a conversation with the Honble. John Bell upon that subject, from which conversation I infered that he had been in his (Carrolls) favour for such an appointment, but that he did not at that time feel the same interest, however, you can satisfy your self upon that subject. and, shall conclude this, already too long letter, with a request that you will excuse the freedom with which I have written you. I shall barely say in conclusion that I expect to viset the Eastward this winter, and if I should do so, want to either go or return through Washington, in which event I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you.

The Legislature is expected to adjourn about the 22nd of this month—there will be no senator elected this session, and wheather Mr Grundy will or will not be reelected is quite uncertain—for my own part I should prefer Mr Eaton, but if he should not have a prospect of success I am inclined to vote for Foster in preferance to Mr Grundy—the truth is I never have been able to satisfy myself that Mr. Grundy was acting the part of your friend in going to Majr. Eaton with the manuscript copy of Mr. Calhoun's *Book*, I fear he, as well as Govr. Carroll is in the habit of keeping bad company. With great respect your Most Obedient Servant.

D. Burford

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr Burford—Tennessee to be preserved on private file A. J.

ALS, DLC (40). ALS draft, Mrs. J. Noble Crump (19-0063).

1. On August 9 the *Telegraph* had published a July 20 letter from Robert Desha to editor Duff Green. Desha claimed to be AJ's "warm, personal, and political friend," and said

he had "been denounced for no other reason" than "that I could not say, Major Eaton was one of the greatest men in the nation, and that Mrs. Eaton was a slandered woman." Desha endorsed AJ's reelection and general policies but decried his unfair attack on Calhoun, traceable to "the *intrigues* of an unprincipled set of men," notably Eaton, Van Buren, and Lewis. In this letter, Desha said that Eaton had told him in Tennessee that as soon as he heard of Timberlake's death, he had determined to go to Washington and marry his widow. On September 8 the *Telegraph* published an August 25 letter from Desha with a correction: Eaton had told him about this not in Tennessee, but later in Washington. Desha also denied having met with Calhoun's friends in Congress to demand Eaton's removal from the Cabinet.

2. Alexander Speer's public letter to Stephen D. Miller appeared in the *Globe* on November 14 and the *Telegraph* on November 16.

To Elizabeth Hatch, Eliza B. Powell, and Mary H. Gaynor

Washington, Dec. 5, 1831.

Ladies,

On the receipt of the Memorial of the Ladies of Newbern, North Carolina, I lost no time in referring the same to the Secretary of War, with directions, if Captain Whiting's company had been removed from thence, to order another company to Newbern for their protection and safety. I herewith enclose the reply of the Secretary of War. That will shew with what promptness I have met the prayer and wishes of the fair petitioners. Be pleased to communicate this to the memorialists, and believe me, with great respect,

Your most obedient servant,

ANDREW JACKSON.

War Department, Dec. 5, 1831.

The Secretary of War has the honor to return to the President the letter of the Ladies of Newbern, enclosing their Memorial, and to inform the President, that Captain Whiting's company was some time since withdrawn, but that another has this day been ordered from Old Point Comfort to supply its place.

Printed, New Bern *North Carolina Sentinel*, December 21, 1831 (mAJs). *Niles*, January 7, 1832 (19-0077, 19–0074). An artillery company under Captain Henry W. Griswold replaced Whiting's at New Bern.

To John Overton

Decbr. 5th. 1831

My Dr. Sir,

I have just one moment to say to you, that Congress have met, a quorum of both Houses present, Mr Stephenson elected Speaker, and the

message of which the inclosed is a copy will be delivered to them tomorrow 12 oclock. Read & give me your opinion of it. All well my daughter an accomplished and pretty girl with whom I am much pleased. With good wishes to your family, yr friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, THi (19-0085). The Twenty-second Congress convened on December 5. Andrew Stevenson (1784–1857) of Virginia was elected Speaker of the House.

From Henry Lee

Paris 5th. Decr. 1831

dear General

To day Congress meets & tomorrow I suppose your message will be delivered. Although we are so far apart I hope we think alike on the subject of the Poles and that your message will contain not only regret for this the second murder of that unhappy country, but reprobation of the unprincipled policy to which they have been sacrificed; as well as a ~~propo~~ recommendation to congress of an adequate quantity of Land for the permanent and comfortable establishment of such exiles from Poland as may choose to seek an Asylum in the U. States.[1] The territory of Michigan or the upper parts of Indiana or Illinois would in temperature and fertility greatly resemble the climate and soil of their own country. I could wish if such a thing seemed likely to take that a small appropriation of money be added, to give the more destitute of these heroic outcasts the means of beginning their transplantation in our free and happy country, with reasonable encouragment and probable success. The more the money given, the less land would be necessary. Our soil is stained by the noble blood of Pulaski, and our battle fields bear witness to the generous courage of Kosciusko—and their compatriots and descendants, in the hour of ~~their~~ distress ~~of~~ have said that america is the only country ~~to~~ in which a polish exile can with honour seek refuge[2] Let us prove that our sympathy for valour and patriotism, is only quickened by the sight of their misfortune; and that we are worthy of the liberty and happiness which Providence has bestowed on us. A colony of these gallant men, would add a germ of noble population to our country, and Europe would be forced to admire the superiority of republican feeling over imperial ambition I write this without communicating with any individual whatever[.] Yrs. faithfully

H. Lee

[Endorsed by AJ:] H. Lee

ALS, DLC (40; 19-0078).

1. A succession of conquests and partitions culminating in 1795 had extinguished the independent Polish state.

2. Polish volunteers Casimir Pulaski (1745–1779) and Thaddeus Kosciusko (1746–1817) had fought as Continental officers in the American Revolution. Pulaski, a brigadier general and cavalry commander, was killed at Savannah in 1779. Kosciusko, a colonel of engineers, constructed key defenses including West Point.

Memorandum Book on Nominations to Office

[This undated note in Jackson's memorandum book immediately follows the entry of November 9 above.]

¿What time shall I present the nominations that have become vacant since the rise of Congress—

AN, DLC (64; 19-0073). On December 7 AJ sent to the Senate nominations of Cabinet officers, diplomats and consuls, judges, marshals, attorneys, territorial officials, and surveyors who had been granted interim commissions during the recess of Congress. On December 8 he nominated land office and customs officials.

To Martin Van Buren

(Private)

Washington Decembr. 6th. 1831

My Dr. Sir,

Both Houses of Congress formed quorums on yesterday, & proceded to business; in the House of representatives, elected Mr Stevenson Speaker on the first ballot, by a majority of one vote, the ballance scattering. This was fortunate, as it is believed by some, that had he not succeded on the first ballot, the opposition might have defeated his election. Dr Southerland got 54 votes. The vote of Col. Drayton who arrived five minutes before 12 meridian, and just in time to answer to his name, gave the majority to Mr. Stevenson; This was fortunate as it saved much ~~irritation~~ feeling that must have arisen out of this subject had not a choice been made on the first ballot.[1]

At twelve oclock to day, my message, of which I enclose you a copy, will be delivered to both Houses of Congress. I will thank you, when recd. & read, for your opinion. You will see, that in the ensuing year we will pay off the national debt. I am sorry that I cannot send you the detailed report of the secretary of the Treasury—it is full & lucid, gives a glowing picture of our prosperous condition, & a display of talent honorable to its possessor. You will find Mr McLane differs with me, on the Bank, still it is an honest difference of opinion, and in his report he acts fairly, by leaving me free & uncommitted, this I will be, on that subject, still I like his frankness, and that open candeur with which he acts[2]—he is a fair honorable man, with whom I am much pleased, and will get on with very

well—in short my whole Cabinet are harmonious, & I have no doubt but we will ~~get on~~ succeed well; but with all their talents, & the confidence I have in them, still, I miss you, & Eaton, very much. I ~~still~~ do hope, that, in the *selection of a vice president*, I may be placed in such a situation at the time I have heretofore sugested to you ~~I may be able~~ to withdraw to the peaceful shades of the Hermitage, from the busy scenes of public life—on this subject, I will write you fully in a few months

Every thing is going on well at present. Nullification & antimasonry, are both declining fast, & will ere long be *buried in oblivion*, doing no harm, but carrying with it they promoters, exciters, & supporters Major Eatons appeal has compleatly nullified, the nullifyer, with all his coworkers in his wicked secrete slanders of female character for political effect. How degrading the idea, that the second officer of the government, aided by three of the heads of the Departments ~~of our government~~, should be engaged in such a scene for the agrandizement of an ambitious demagogue, so disgraceful in itself, and to the great injury of the public concerns to which their whole thoughts should have been directed. They are all prostrate, never to rise from the disgrace they have meritedly brought upon themselves; they have outlived almost all their friends, and are never spoken of but with disapprobation.

Mr. Clay elected senator for Kentucky has arived last evening, Mr Calhoun is expected, but has not yet arived; do not be astonished, should you hear of a union between Mr Clay & Calhoun, on the Tariff.[3] Mr Clay, has said that, he is willing to bring down the tariff to meet the views of all *moderate* men, him & Calhoun agreed in 23 as to the protecting system, & internal improvements, and altho, since then, they have been as distant from each other, on these subjects, as the antipodes, why not in 1831, & 2, come together again.

My son, has a few days since, presented me with a daughter, amiable accomplished, & pretty, and well educated, with whom I am much pleased, & promise myself much happiness at the Hermitage, should I be permitted to retire to its peaceful shades. Major Donelson & Emily with Mary Eastin are here & in good health, and unite with my son & Sarah in kind salutations to you. The Major, your son, is well—present me kindly to your son, John, & Mr Vail, and recollect, I write in great haste & without time to correct, & that you are to forgive all blunders you find in it. Major Lewis & Mr. Earle requests to be kindly presented to you with their best wishes for your health & prosperity—judge Overton always recollects you in his letters to me, write him occasionally. In Nashville, Franklin & Murfresborough they citizens have given to Major Eaton public dinners, & treated Mrs Eaton with parties—he writes me, that he is happy & relieved from mountains of care, & trouble, by his retirement. He will be elected Senator next year if he will accept. I must close. I have to read over the Message & compare it—your friend

Andrew Jackson

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (19-0212).

1. Stevenson was elected Speaker on first ballot with 98 votes out of 195. Joel B. Sutherland of Pennsylvania received 54 votes, and seven other candidates between 1 and 18.

2. McLane submitted the annual report of the Treasury Department to the House of Representatives on December 7. Touting "the moral influence which such an example would necessarily produce throughout the world," he proposed to pay off the national debt by March 3, 1833, the closing date of the Twenty-second Congress and of AJ's presidential term. To do this he would sell the government's shares of BUS stock, with a par rating of $7 million, back to the Bank at their actual market value of at least $8 million. On recharter, McLane offered "a frank expression of his opinions." Citing the "indispensable necessity" and undoubted constitutionality of a national bank, and "the good management of the present bank, the accommodation it has given the Government, and the practical benefits it has rendered the community," he recommended "the expediency of rechartering" it "at the proper time, and with such modifications" as "may be calculated to recommend it to the approbation of the Executive, and, what is vitally important, to the confidence of the people" (*HRDoc* 3, 22d Cong., 1st sess., pp. 7–10, Serial 216).

3. The Kentucky legislature had elected Henry Clay to the Senate on November 10.

Third Annual Message to Congress

[On December 6 Jackson delivered his third annual message to the first session of the Twenty-second Congress. Signed manuscript copies, accompanied by annual reports of the executive departments and their subsidiary bureaus, were sent to both houses and printed by their order (DSs, DNA-RG 46 and DNA-RG 233 [19-0086]; HRDoc *2, 22d Cong., 1st sess. [Serial 216]). The message was widely published and appears in Richardson, 2:544–58.*

The Jackson Papers in the Library of Congress contain an initial sketch of the message by Jackson, major subsequent drafts by Andrew J. Donelson, Amos Kendall, and Edward Livingston, and additional copies and fragmentary revisions by Donelson (DLC-76). Printed here, in their apparent order of composition, are the major drafts by Jackson, Donelson, Kendall, and Livingston.]

Draft by Andrew Jackson

Congratulate the nation on the prosperity of the Country &c &c &—

1rst. In the two messages which I have heretofore communicated, I had felt it to be my duty to go into full & minute examinations and discussions of the various subjects of national concernments, which are subject to the joint supervision and direction of the Legislative & Executive Depts. of the Government.

That the circumstance of my having done so, supercedes the necessity of going at large over the same topics & will induce me to content myself on the present occasion with a refference to the prominent points of policy which in the administration of the Executive Dept. of the Govt. I have

considered it to be the interest of the U.S. to adopt & enforce; with a brief review, of the progress which has been made in their prosecution—to what has been, & what remains to be done.

I. To protect the national honor; preserve peace—extend the range and improve the condition of our Foreign commerce—obtain redress for past infractions upon the rights of our citizens by Foreign nations, and require all practicable gurantees for their ~~protection~~ future security & respect.

II To rescue the Indian Tribes within our borders from their present miseries & ultimate extinction to which by their condition they are unavoidably exposed; and at the same time dry up a prolific source of collison between the Federal ~~& State Governments~~ power, & the states in which they reside, secure them from burthens in the highest degree onerous to both, without producing correspondent advantages to the Indians.

IIIrd. To pay the national debt at the earliest possible period & by means the least burthensome to the people.

4th. To ensure the ability of the Government to effect that great object—save the constitution from violation, & preserve the purity of our legislation by putting an end to all appropriations from the general fund to local objects, & by defering, with enumerated and unavoidable exceptions, such appropriations for improvements of general extent, as congress many deem warrantable, until the national debt is paid, & some general System established calculated to secure an honest, equitable & salutary distribution of the surplus fund of the nation, when ~~it~~ such may exist.

Vth To give stability & consequent usefulness to our system of protecting duties and under its opperation as little oppression as possible to those who think that they do not share in its benefits by a judicious and reasonable revision of the present tarriff—a revision which shall secure to it the character of a national measure, adopted for national not private ends.

VI To extend our judiciary system to all the States so as to secure to those who do not yet enjoy it, what all are entitled to; the able, equal, & impartial administration of justice in civil and criminal cases.

VII To preserve to the officers of the Army & Navy especially the character which belongs to ~~them~~ military men, by rendering wholly independent of the officers of the Government for the nature and amount of their compensation by placing it on the footing of positive, and specific statute regulations, & to secure a faithful administration of the fiscal ~~concerns~~ affairs of the Government by circumscribing to the utmost practicable extent, the range of official discretion in the auditing & settling of public accounts—a discretion which is every where the fruitful source of favoritism prodigallity, & ultimate peculation.

If other topics enumerate them then ~~enumerate~~ review what has been done under the different heads &c—and upon those points which I have repeatedly recommended to Congress & which have not been acted upon delicately but clearly state them, and that I have a continued & increased confidence in the efficiency of those measures and my earnest desire that

they may occupy the early attention of the present congress—expatiate ~~of~~ on the degrading situation & condition in which the pay of the Naval officers as it now stands, & the character of the temporary legislation which has been resorted to in their behalf.

our Foreign relations; repeat what has been done without ostentation. The west India trade—that as was expected some dificulty had arisen in giving effect to the arrangement &c &c &c, *Mr McLane can give a full & fair view of this subject*. The Turkish Treaty, if the Port exchanges, we must say some handsome things—contrary, put the *saddle* on the *right horse*—The Treaty with Denmark—*Spain*—the steps taken with her—Portugal—Columbia, the duties reduced. Treaty with Mexico. France & our claims. Rusia &c. The Indian question must be brought before congress in a strong & efficient manner. The North East boundery, a special message on this subject.

AD, DLC (19-0158). Copy in AJ's 1829–1832 memorandum book, DLC (64; 19-0162).

Draft by Andrew J. Donelson

[This draft drew directly on Jackson's text above. It was supplanted by the Kendall draft that follows.]

Fellow citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives

The revolution of another year brings us together as constitutional agents in the advancement of the prosperity and happiness of our common country. In no period of our national existence have we had greater reason than now to thank him who holds the destinies of men in his hands for past favors and for the prospect of future blessings. Whilst in other countries vicissitudes springing from the instabilities of Government and the conflicting interests of nations are producing war and diminishing in other respects the aggregate of social happiness, we have the satisfaction of contemplating our own as not only free from such calamities but as realizing with wonderful success the efficacy of those great principles by which the powers of Government are made the instrument of freedom, and of its highest and best gifts, virtue and happiness to the people who enjoy it.

To congratulate you, my fellow citizens, upon the auspicious circumstances under which you have now assembled as a branch of the Federal Legislature, is only to remind you of the obligations which they impose. Flourishing and happy as our condition is we cannot flatter ourselves that there is not room for its improvement—that there is not mingled with it causes of imperfection and decay which require counteraction in order to ensure the continuance of our blessings. To search out these and apply the necessary reforms, to cement our Union, and to cherish the fundamental principles of our Government, are duties which can never cease to give the fullest scope to the patriotism and wisdom of our statesmen: but there

can be no period more propitious to their execution than the present, which finds us free from every foreign embarrassment, at peace with all the world, and at home enjoying the richest evidences of general prosperity. In adverting to these duties and the favorable auspices under which I am allowed to survey them, I feel an increasing sense of the importance of harmony and good will in your deliberations and of corresponding obligations on my own part where the cooperation of the Executive is necessary

In my communications to the Twenty first Congress I had occasion to enter fully into the examination of several important questions connected with the discharge of our duties, which at this stage of the Government still occupy the most prominent ground and have special claims upon our attention. There is not however the same necessity for my dwelling minutely upon them; and I shall therefore confine myself on this occasion, chiefly, to presenting you with a view of our affairs, and inviting your attention to such measures as in the administration of the Executive Department of the Government, I have been led to take as called for by the interests of our ~~interests~~ constituents: with a brief review of the progress that has been made in some of them, and of what remains to be done.

In our intercourse with foreign nations it has been my steady object to maintain the national honor, preserve peace, extend the range and improve the condition of our foreign commerce: and obtain redress for past infractions of the rights of our fellow citizens with all practicable guaranties for their future security and respect. (here wait for Mr. Livingstons report.)

Among the most important and not the least difficult of the trusts assigned to the Executive is that which embraces the care and protection of the Indian tribes within our borders. With the aid of the law passed at the last session of Congress providing for the removal and settlement of this unfortunate class of people west of the Mississippi, much has been done to lessen the miseries of their condition and avert the extinction which so certainly awaited them as occupants of Territories subject to the jurisdiction of the states. (here insert what has been done, and some general remarks felicitating Congress that all causes for future collision between the Fed. Govt. and the states, on this subject are removed)

Another prominent object to which my attention and efforts have been directed, has been the payment of the national debt at the earliest possible period and by means the least burthensome to the people. To secure the ability of the Government to effect this object, to save the constitution from violation and the Union from discord, and to promote the purity of Federal Legislation, I have felt it to be my duty to withold my sanction of all expenditures of the common fund for local objects, and to recommend the postponement, with unavoidable exceptions, of all appropriations for improvements of a national character which Congress may deem warrantable, until the public debt is paid, and some general system digested by which an honest, equitable and salutary disposition of the surplus funds of the nation, when such may exist, can be made. In the soundness and

justice of this policy I am confirmed by subsequent reflection upon it, and by the belief that it meets the wishes of our constituents.

Connected with this policy may be added the protective operation of our import duties. The scale to which it may be reduced so as to give it the stability essential to its usefulness at the same time that it is accommodated to the interests of those who believe that from their local situations they cannot share its benefits, will not become practicable until the payment of the national debt. An adjustment of the Tariff then with a view to the wants of the Government will involve but few questions of difficulty. Its protective operation tested by national not private ends, may avoid the injustice of ruining by sudden changes such of our fellow citizens as have been induced to invest their capital and labour in branches of industry which would otherwise have remained unocupied (here may be incorprated calculations about the paymt of the debt, and such reflections as may be proper arising out of the report of Mr. McLean)

It was among the earliest of the recommendations which I made to the preceding Congress to modify our Judiciary system so as to make it subserve better the purposes of its institution. It does not secure to the states alike what they are all equally entitled to an able and impartial administration of justice in civil and criminal cases. An omission so important cannot fail to awaken your attention and will I trust receive the proper correction.[1]

I have also endeavored to introduce several changes in the service of the Army and navy calculated to benefit it, but the most important of these cannot be effected without the aid of Congress. I cannot too earnestly recommend to your attention the necessity of placing the nature and amount of the compensation of the officers, under every circumstance, on the footing of positive, specific statute regulation which shall render them wholly independent of all branches of the executive and secure a faithful administration of the affairs of the Government. Not the least of the good effects of this measure would be its circumscribing within the narrowest possible limits all official discretion in the auditing and settling of accounts—a discretion which is every where the fruitful source of favoritism and prodigality, if not peculation. It would also preserve to the officers habits of scrupulous integrity and lofty independence without which military men cease to be useful.

AD, DLC (76).

1. AJ here inserted in the margin: "Permit me here to draw your attention to the insolvant law passed last session of Congress and recommend that it be so amended as every honest debtor to the United States may receve the Benefit thereof."

Draft by Amos Kendall

[A full copy of this draft was made by Donelson and marked for revisions and excisions. The first part, intended for the message's general opening passage and its review of foreign relations, was rewritten by

Livingston (below). The second part, beginning with the section on Indian removal, furnished the basis for the message's discussion of domestic affairs. In final form it was much revised and condensed (Richardson, 2:554–58).]

It gives me pleasure to meet the twenty second Congress of the United States with well founded congratulations on the prosperity of our happy country. Although we have been visited during the past year with partial discontents among a portion of our population, which, in a single instance, have led to bloodshed, we have been blessed with general contentment and acquiescence in the execution of the laws. In our crops and our business, the blessings of heaven have been showered upon us in a degree perhaps unequalled even in our country. Never did plenty fill the garners and crown the tables of our planters and husbandmen with more abundant stores. Our manufacturers, mechanics and laborers have found full employment and a liberal addition to their accustomed profits. The business of our merchants has extended; all property connected with commerce has been much enhanced in value; ships are rapidly increasing; every sea is explored by our enterprizing mariners; and the gains of an honest trade with almost the whole world, are accumulating upon our shores. Internal Improvement are extending with unprecedented rapidity. Science is steadily penetrating the recesses of nature and disclosing her secrets, while the ingenuity of free minds is subjecting the elements to the power of man and making each new acquisition auxiliary to his comfort. Through our mails, whose speed every year increases, intelligence spreads with the swiftness of the wind, and communications between distant cities, which formerly required months, are now accomplished in a few days. In the construction of Rail Roads and the application of Steam-power to their cars, we have a promise, that in relation to internal intercourse, distance will soon be almost annihilated and the extremes of our Union brought within a few days travel. For all these blessings and prospects, we owe a debt of thankfulness to a superintending Providence which it becomes us to acknowledge and attempt to repay.

In the fulness of our gratitude, let us not forget the channels through which Heaven pours upon us its choicest favors. They are our Liberty, our Laws and our Union. Our Liberty affords a scope to the discursions of the human mind, limited only by the boundaries of its power; and our Laws secure to each citizen the full enjoyment of his acquisitions and inventions. By the preservation of peace and a cheap protection, our Union leaves free the energies of every mind, unseduced by the trappings of war, ~~and~~ unconcerned for the means of subsistence and self-preservation, to pursue the path of knowledge and of wealth. Let us guard our Liberties with jealous care; for their destruction would put fetters on the mind and arrest its glorious career: Let us preserve our Federal Union as the second object of our regard; for its dissolution would give us all the miseries and

desolations of war for the arts and enjoyments of peace, and make our Liberties of little value. The acts of our government may often be unjust and sometimes oppressive. So, natural evils exist and desolate our earth; yet, would any man, having the power, throw the universe into chaos and cast away life and all its blessings, to remedy the evil. Equally irrational would be the attempt to escape the abuses of our government by destroying the system. Rather let us cure the ills we can and bear those we cannot, than cast away our substantial enjoyments to grasp at shadowy hope.

Our system of government is no longer an experiment. Its practicability and usefulness in promoting the peace, prosperity and happiness of the human family is already tested. It has advanced us from three millions of people to twelve; from thirteen separate colonies to twenty four united states; from poverty to riches; from weakness to strength; from the contempt of the world to its admiration. This it has performed; but it promises more. It promises future peace and prosperity to an immense country, peopled by countless millions of happy freemen. It promises, by the moral force of its example, to give liberty and peace in process of time to the whole family of man. It promises to set free their bodies and minds, to teach them that they are brothers whose real interests consist, not in reciprocal injuries but in mutual good offices, to put an end to war, to make the earth, every where cultivated and improved, the peaceful abode of benevolent and happy beings.

There are certain conditions and principles which are adapted to promote the prosperity of all communities and races of men. Among these are peace, external and internal, free trade between each other, the inviolability of contracts, a common and sound currency, and the means of ready communication. In these there is nothing peculiar or sectional. Their adoption and enforcement are alike beneficial to a country, a continent and the whole world. Institutions and laws confined to these objects cannot be injurious to any profession, occupation or class of men, to any country, state or provice, to any system of morals or of useful religion.

But there are interests, opinions and prejudices which cannot be made to centre in the same government, without oppression and discontent. Religious establishments must have government; but the same government is not adapted to the Protestant and Catholic, the Jew and Mahometan, the Episcopalian and Baptist. By bringing within its scope the management and control of religious establishments, the sovereign power of the state necessarily gives a preference to one and oppresses the rest. But by leaving each to govern itself in all that pertains to religion, taking care only that they do not disturb the peace and good order of society, that power performs the only office in regard to religion which properly belongs to the civil authority. The same principle applies to local interests. In some countries there slaves and in others none. The same government cannot safely manage the local concerns of both, because they require incompatible systems of legislation. One section of a country may find its interest in one species of agri-

cultural industry, another section in another species, while a third devotes itself to manufactures. No government can undertake to ~~protect~~ foster one of these at the expense of another without producing sectional discontent which will weaken its authority if it do not endanger its existence. But in a government over all, which shall select and in its operations confine itself to those pervading principles, that, in their practical application, are conceded to be universally beneficial, all interests, opinions and prejudices may unite. Under such a government, the whole human family, all races of men, varieties of religion and diversities of occupation, may live in peaceful rivalry and the highest earthly happiness.

If our general government was not originally formed upon these principles, its duration depends on their observance. Our population embraces many varieties of religion. It is impossible to subject them all to a common head and bend them to the same system of government; each sect is therefore left to govern itself. There are almost all conditions of men in our several states; it was impossible to subject the whole to the same internal police and regulate their civil and political rights by the same rules. Each state is, therefore, left to fix the civil and political condition of its own people without rightful interference from any other state or from the general government. There are diversities of interests and occupations in the different sections of our country, which the general government cannot regulate, restrict or prohibit. So far as it possesses that power, sound policy requires that it should be exercised with a cautious discretion ~~and that~~. Its safety and usefulness mainly consist~~s~~ in the enforcement of those great principles which are alike conducive to the prosperity and happiness of all sections of our country and all classes of our people, with as little interference as possible with the affairs of the states and the concerns of the people.

The first duty of the general government is the preservation of peace and the protection of our citizens against foreign aggression. In what manner that duty has been performed by the present executive, I had the happiness to inform the Congress of the United States in former messages, communicating arrangements with Mexico, Colombia, Brazil, Denmark, Austria and Great Britian, in some instances granting indemnities for spoliations on ~~our commerce,~~ the property of our citizens, in others obviating grounds of misunderstanding, and in all, securing the interests of our trade. A treaty with the Turkish government, believed to be highly favorable to our commercial interests, was sanctioned by the Senate with some modifications at the last session of Congress, which, it is hoped, will be ratified without hesitation by the Sublime Porte.

(Here insert the detail of foreign relations)

In a review of our foreign relations there is every motive for mutual felicitation. But few causes of difference between the United States and other powers, remain to be removed. By a frank and firm course in pursuit of our rights, asking nothing more and accepting nothing less, we have

a fair prospect of soon being in perfect harmony with the whole world. When all foreign governments shall be convinced, that we seek only peace and justice through frankness and truth; that we ask trade with them only on equal terms and for mutual benefit; that we do not interfere with their concerns, foreign or domestic, and only demand that they shall let us alone as we let alone all other nations, they will find many motives to secure our friendship and none to provoke our hostility.

With the people of other countries who may be struggling to recover the rights which we enjoy, it is impossible that we should not deeply sympathize. But our interference in their behalf would injure ourselves without doing them good. By preserving in their purity our own institutions, and illustrating from year to year their peculiar adaptation to promote human happiness, we do more for the freedom of mankind than we could do by the array of fleets and armies. We cannot liberate the nations by our arms; but we may by our example. Let the principle be universally established, that no nation shall interfere with the government of another, and each in succession will resume its liberties. We may be called ~~to mourn~~ more than once to mourn over the apparent fall of a gallant people; but the spirit of the age, pervading and irresistible as the fire which animates creation, will soon raise them from the ruin in beauty and glory.

The internal peace and security of our confederated states is one of the principal objects of the general government. Time and experience have proved, that the abode of the native Indian within the~~ir~~ limits ~~of our states~~ is dangerous to their peace and injurious to himself. In compliance with my recommendation, at the session of Congress preceding the last, an appropriation of half a million of dollars was made to aid the voluntary removal of the various ~~Indian~~ tribes beyond the limits of the states. At the last session of Congress I had the happiness to announce, that the Chickasaws and Choctaws had accepted the generous offer of the government and agreed to remove beyond the Mississippi river, by which the whole of the state of Mississippi and the westerly part of Alabama will be freed from Indian occupancy and opened to a civilized population. The treaties with those tribes are in a course of execution, and in _____ their removal will be completed.

At the request of the authorities of Georgia, the registration of Cherokee Indians for emigration has been renewed, and it is confidently expected that one half if not two thirds of that tribe will follow the wise example of their more westerly brethren. Those who prefer remaining at their present homes, will hereafter be governed by the laws of Georgia like all her other citizens, and cease to be the objects of peculiar care on the part of the general government.

During the present year, the efforts of the government have been particularly directed to the powerful and growing state of Ohio where considerable tracts of the finest lands were still occupied by the aboriginal proprietors. Treaties have been made extinguishing the Indian title to three

reservations in that state, leaving but one in possession of the natives. The time is not distant, it is hoped, when that state also will no longer be embarrassed with an Indian population.

It is confidently believed, that perseverance for a few years in the present policy of the general government, will extinguish the Indian title to all lands lying within the limits of any of the twenty four states composing our federal union, and remove beyond their limits every Indian who retains his savage habits. Thus will all conflicting claims to jurisdiction between the states and Indian tribes be put to rest; the states, relieved from the presence of an uncultivated and hostile race, will acquire consistency and strength by the diffusion of a homogeneous population throughout their whole extent; and all danger of collision between them and the general government on account of the aborigines, be dissipated forever.

It is pleasing to reflect, that measures so beneficial to the states will have been accomplished by measures equally advantageous to the Indians. What the native savages become by mixing with the whites and being hemmed in by their settlements, may be seen in the miserable remnants of a few eastern tribes, deprived of political and civil rights, forbidden to make contracts and subjected to guardians, dragging out a miserable existence without excitement, without hope and almost without thought. Is this sluggish, idle, wretched being to be compared with the free, independent, ever active and comparatively intelligent son of the forest? The most savage Indian in the western wilds, stands immeasurably higher in the scale of intelligent existences than these listless beings on whom the lights of civilization have been shining for ages.

But the removal of the Indians beyond the limits and jurisdiction of the states, does not place them beyond the reach of philanthropic aid and Christian instruction. On the contrary, those whom philanthropy or religion induces to live among them in their new abode, will be more free in the exercise of their benevolent functions than if they had remained within the limits of the states embarrassed by their internal regulations. Now, subject to no control but the superintending agency of the general government exercised with the sole view of preserving peace, they may proceed unmolested in the interesting experiment of gradually advancing a community of American Indians from savage barbarism to the habits and enjoyments of civilized life.

The effect of the improved relations of our Republic, external and internal, has been an increase of trade producing a corresponding increase of revenue, beyond the most sanguine anticipations of the Treasury Department

(Here insert the amount of the estimated revenue from duties and the actual amount—so of public lands—and the whole probable amount of ~~probable~~ revenue for 1832.)

For a more detailed statement of the revenue, I refer to the able and interesting report of the Secretary of the Treasury. By that document it will

be perceived, that with the cooperation of Congress and in the absence of any unforeseen emergency, the public debt may be entirely extinguished on the 3d day of March 1833. I solicit your aid in the accomplishment of this interesting object.[1] Let us hasten an era which few of us ever expected to see. It will be a jubilee, a proud triumph of freedom, ~~a consummation of glory~~ which cannot fail to make its impression on other nations and teach them the value of our institutions.

[2]But even this bright prospect, so gratifying and so glorious, imposes upon the present Congress, duties the most delicate and momentous. The present rate and adjustment of impost duties, with other sources of revenue, will, after the extinguishment of the public debt, yield an annual income exceeding the necessary current demands of the government by certainly eight and probably twelve millions of dollars. There is reason to believe, that the increase of our population and the extension of trade will soon cause it to transcend the highest estimate. The questions for the considerations of Congress are—Shall means be devised to spend this enormous surplus? Or, shall the revenue be reduced?

It is startling to reflect on the probable consequences of giving this government ten or twelve millions of dollars each year to scatter over the territory of our Republic. The people may be induced to elect Representatives to Congress, not with a view to their capacity and integrity, but solely by the opinion entertained of their adroitness and skill in making bargains and arrangements by which the largest share of the public treasure should be spent in their several districts; the capitol, instead of being the theatre of useful legislation, may be converted into an arena in which the contents of the Treasury shall be the prize of contention; and the expenditure of ten millions a year, or forty millions in four years, may so increase the patronage and influence of the President, that he can purchase a reelection and transfer his office to a successor of his own selection. These considerations, were there none in constitutional right and other views of state policy, are, it seems to me, conclusive against permitting such a surplus to come into the Treasury. But were it otherwise, it will be universally conceded, I think, that there are no public works which the general government can of right or ought in policy to undertake, that would require an annual expenditure of ten or twelve millions of dollars. I therefore believe it to be the true policy of this government to diminish the receipts of the Treasury by reducing the duties on imports and other means, to take effect from the 3d day of March 1833, to the amount of at least eight millions of dollars.

The reduction of the impost duties comes in direct contact with the policy of a protecting tariff which has heretofore, for some years, been a leading object of Congressional legislation. My views of the constitutional power of Congress in that respect, and the considerations which ought to regulate its exercise, were fully disclosed in a former message, and it is not necessary now to repeat them. I may, however, adduce other views

immediately connected with the important subject which must occupy a large share of your deliberations.

A Tariff of mere protection, imposed with the *sole* view of promoting a particular branch of industry, without regard to revenue, would probably be pronounced inexpedient by every member of our community. If Congress were to lay duties producing ten millions of dollars annually, and direct that the money when paid into the Treasury, should be buried in the earth or sunk in the fathomless ocean, it would be a Tariff of mere protection. Would such a Tariff be expedient? Would it not be throwing away the profits of our people's labor to the amount of ten millions annually? Would they not see with a force of conviction more powerful than any argument, that this process, however it might benefit the manufacturers, must drain and impoverish the country? Would not every man feel, that a dollar, taken from his pocket and thrown into the ocean, cannot add to his comforts or enrich his country? Such a tariff would not be borne for a year. Every section of our country would rise up and demand its repeal.

If the ten millions of dollars, after being thus raised, were given to the government of Great Britian to aid in paying their national debt or make roads and canals through their territory, would the injury to the United States be the less obvious and intolerable? However a few manufactories might flourish and a few citizens get rich by the high prices thus superinduced upon the proceeds of their labor, would not the ~~obvious~~ certain effect upon the country be general injury and impoverishment? Would ~~our people~~ the American citizen be reconciled to paying the national debt of Great Britian by the consideration that the same operation enabled his neighbor to get rich at his expense by exacting a higher price for the products of his manufactory?

If the ten millions thus raised, were given to the state of Tennessee to make roads and canals, would it not be obvious that the rest of the Union was taxed, drained and impoverished for the benefit of that state? Would it reconcile the country to this unnecessary tax, if it were shown that a few manufacturers in Rhode Island were getting rich in consequence of the higher prices to which these duties raise the articles with which our people are clad? Would it prove any thing except that the people of Tennessee were enjoying the benefits of ten millions of dollars raised from the whole people of the United States as a duty on imports, and the manufacturers of Rhode Island ten millions more raised from the same people by the enhanced price of their manufactures; and that their fellow citizens in other states were quietly paying an annual tax of twenty millions for the benefit of these two states? Such a system would not be tolerated a moment after it was generally understood. Yet, this is ~~the premise~~ substantially the effect of raising money by a general Tariff and spending it on local works of internal improvement.

Were the ten millions thus raised by a protecting Tariff given to particular citizens in due proportion to each state, the injury and wrong would scarcely be less to the tax-paying people. Pennsylvania whose citizens pay about a tenth of the duties, might see the million of dollars thus exacted given to ten of her prominent men at the rate of ~~$1,000,000~~ $100,000 apiece; but would her people consent to be taxed or would it be right to tax them a million of dollars for such a purpose? Or would such a tax be made right or tolerable by the consideration, that ten more of her citizens would be made rich by the higher prices which they would thus be enabled to exact for their manufactures? No state in the Union would bear a tax in any shape which thus obviously conduced to make a few rich at the expence of the many.

No man, I think, will pronounce a Tariff expedient or in any way beneficial to the country, when the proceeds, not being wanted for any legitimate purpose, shall be buried in the earth, sunk in the ocean, given to a foreign government or people, bestowed on a single state or expended on local objects, or even if they be presented to a few citizens of each state. Our people would never consent to pay high duties and high prices for such objects.

By no practicable system can government diffuse equally its taxes and expenditures. Taxes must be raised from the whole people; but expenditures are necessarily greatest at the capitol, at the Naval Depots and Military Stations. In a moderate degree, all other portions of the country are drained and impoverished to furnish those funds which ~~in their expenditure~~ render an incidental benefit to these particular spots, in the support of the public establishments. Every device to equalize the expenditure by increasing taxes, and disbursements, only increases the evil. A few more spots may be benefitted; but the general burdens and consequently the general inequality become greater. The nearest approach to equality is when the taxes and disbursements of government are least. Money is better diffused when in the pockets of the people than government can diffuse it by any system of expenditure

The American people will ever be ~~ready~~ willing to pay whatever duties or taxes may be necessary to support their government, maintain their army and navy, and accomplish such works of national importance as are authorized by the constitution. They will never complain of the inequalities of taxation or expenditure which are necessarily incident to the accomplishment of these objects. Nor will they complain of the adjustment of these duties in such manner as to protect American industry, particularly in those branches which are most essential to the independence and defence of the country. But they cannot be expected, and ought not to be required, to pay ten or twelve millions of dollars which is not ~~required~~ needed for the support of their government and cannot be applied to objects of general utility.

All reductions of the impost duties should be made prospective, that our merchants may have time to dispose of articles on hand which have been subjected to existing duties without loss to themselves. If the reduction be upon articles manufactured in the United States, a prospective reduction is no less due to the manufacturer, that he may accommodate his business to the altered circumstances.

From these considerations I recommend a revision of the Tariff to take effect from the 3d of March 1833, with the object of reducing the proceeds of the impost duties at least eight millions of dollars. From articles which enter into the consumption of the laboring classes constituting a large portion of their comforts, from articles purchased abroad by an exchange of the produce of our farmers, & planters, and from articles used in manufacturing, none of which are grown or manufactured in the United States, no objection is perceived to a repeal of the entire duty. The benefits would extend over every section of our country and reach every class of our people, while none would be injured, directly or indirectly. By a careful revision of the remaining duties it is believed they may be so adjusted and apportioned as to afford all reasonable protection to every branch of national industry which it is the interest of the people in that manner to protect. The manufacturers themselves should remember, that extravagant duties for their protection, even if acquiesced in by their fellow citizens, defeat the object of their imposition by the inducements they hold out for illicit trade. They should also remember, that unreasonable exactions for their protection, will, as they have done already, raise up a violent opposition among their own countrymen; and as public opinion is apt to vibrate from one extreme to another before it settles down at a just medium, they have cause to apprehend, that perseverance in adhering to the abuses of the Tariff, will lead to an indiscriminate destruction of all that is good as well as all that is bad in its provisions, leaving them to encounter for a time a hostility more fatal to their interests than the friendship of the government has been beneficial. In their own interests, therefore, properly understood, will the manufacturers and their friends find an adequate motive for moderation and concession.

Higher motives may be found for mutual concession and compromise between citizens of conflicting interests and opinions, in an elevated patriotism. In the affairs of government as well as in the concerns of private life, much is due to the opinions and even to the prejudices and errors of those with whom we are associated. Errors honestly entertained and confidently cherished, ~~as essential truths~~, constitute as powerful motives of human action as acknowledged truths. From want of forbearance and concession on the one side and the other, until the lights of knowledge could be made to dissipate the mists of prejudice, nations have often been precipitated into fearful anarchy and bloody wars. It cannot be doubted, that many of our citizens honestly believe a Tariff of protection to be unconstitutional, impolitic and oppressive; and it is equally certain, that

others believe it constitutional, politic and highly beneficial to the general interests of the country. Perhaps it is fortunate for the nation, that the circumstances of the government ~~are such that it is~~ make it unnecessary for Congress to predicate its legislation upon either of these positions. In a necessary reduction of duties, room is afforded for a liberal compromise of opinions which shall at least leave to none any just ground to complain of actual oppression; and in the ~~future~~ prospects of our country, there is nothing which threatens to make the subject one of exciting interest hereafter. In the spirit with which you shall enter upon this interesting subject, and in the manner of its final adjustment, it is devoutly hoped, that the enemies of our Union, who are also the enemies of mankind, may be once more disappointed.

With a reduction of eight millions of dollars in our annual revenues, it is probable we shall still have a surplus of several millions. In my former messages, I ~~have~~ recommended that the surplus revenue be distributed among the states in an equitable ratio, if it be deemed consistent with the constitution. I still think such a distribution the most equal and safe disposition which can be made of it. It will return this portion of the money drawn from the people to the sections of country whence it came; prevent ~~a~~ corrupting contests in Congress for local appropriations; deprive the Executive of the dangerous patronage which must be incident to the expenditure of so large a sum of money; and cause it to be applied with more economy and effect than it can be under the superintendance of the general government.

It is urged by some, that such a distribution of the surplus revenue would be unconstitutional. If perchance the general government should raise more money by taxation than its necessities may require, I cannot perceive that it would be unconstitutional to ~~hand it back~~ restore it to those who paid it; or, if that be impossible, to hand it over to their more immediate agents and representatives in the state governments. It is none the less the money of the people because it has been paid into the Treasury; and whatever scruples may be entertained as to the power of Congress to apply it to purposes of internal improvement, there can be no doubt as to the right of the state governments. In my suggestions upon this subject, I have been influenced by a desire that the general government shall be seen and felt as little as possible within the limits of the states whose internal rights and powers it is its duty to preserve and protect rather than to absorb and destroy; but if a more constitutional and politic mode of distributing the surplus revenue can be devised by the wisdom of Congress, it will give me pleasure to see it ~~accomplished~~ adopted.[3]

In former messages I recommended ~~an~~ amendments of the federal constitution, giving the election of President and Vice President to the people, and limiting the service of the former to a single term. So important do I consider these changes in our fundamental law, that I cannot, in accordance with my sense of duty, omit to press them upon the consideration

of a new Congress. For my views more at large, as well in relation to these points as to the alternative disqualification of members of Congress to receive an office from a President in whose election they have had an official agency, I refer you to my former messages whose arguments and suggestions it is unnecessary to repeat.

Our system of public accounts is extremely complicated and may be much improved. A single fact will ~~make~~ illustrate this truth: A citizen presenting an account at the office of the 2d, 3d or 4th Auditor, is obliged to visit eight different offices and two of them twice, however plain and uncontested may be his claim, before he can obtain payment in the regular channel. Indeed, some accounts of the Navy Department having to pass the inspection of the Navy Commissioners, and most of those of the War Department, having to pass through various bureaux, go to nine different offices in their progress. It is only in the Auditors' and Comptrollers' Offices that there is any authoritative examination into the justice or legality of the account; the rest is little else than form. It is believed, that a simple system may be devised, more efficient and equally safe, which shall dispense with one third or one half of the existing machinery and curtail the incidental expenditure of public money at least one hundred thousand dollars per year. With a view to a general reform in the system, I solicit permission to appoint three Commissioners who shall thoroughly examine the present system of public accounts and prepare a revision ~~which shall~~ to be submitted to Congress at their next session.

Rotation in office has ever been a favorite maxim in our Republic. It has existed, however, more in theory than in practice. It is not doubted, that many men spend a life-time in office and preserve their honor and integrity unsullied. But the tendency of official power is to corrupt. The mind is apt to bend gradually to its influence, until the public officer, who, when originally appointed, would as soon take a dollar illegally from his brother as from his government, winks at frauds and abuses in others, if he does not practice them himself. Besides, an annual salary which is considered a provision for life, encourages idleness and dissipation. Men seek to do as little as they can and keep their places, and spend all they receive, because they consider their income as certain. Few office holders improve in their habits, their minds or their circumstances, while many obviously deteriorate. It is not doubted, that a practical rotation, especially in the offices in this City, would add much to the efficiency of the government, as well as to the talent, industry and character of the official corps. In these points the government would gain more than it would lose by parting with a few faithful and experienced servants. I would therefore suggest, for the consideration of Congress, whether the public good would not be promoted by establishing by law a rotation in all the subordinate offices at Washington, ~~by law,~~ limiting their tenure to eight years and providing that one eighth sh~~ould~~all go out annually, beginning with those longest in office. It would be but just to distant states, if, to rotation in these offices

should be added a distribution, giving to each state in the Union its due portion of the new appointments. Intelligent young men would then be brought to the capital from all the states, who would look to office as a means of acquiring property as well as money, and at the end of eight years would return, with the savings of their official service, to commence other business and spread information in the places of their nativity. By such a law, all the states in due proportion and a greater number of persons, would participate in the benefits of office, if any there be; industry, integrity and economy would be promoted, intelligence disseminated and that feeling of aristocratic pride, privileged superciliousness and courtly extravagance which so naturally springs up around a government, be measurably suppressed and hereafter prevented.[4]

I deem it my duty again to call the attention of Congress to the condition of the District of Columbia. Perhaps it was wise in the framers of our constitution partially to disfranchise the people of this District, that those engaged in the administration of the government and their dependants might have no immediate agency in the perpetuation of their power. But to accomplish that object, it is not necessary that this people should be deprived of all the privileges of self-government. Independently of the difficulty of inducing the representatives of distant states to turn their attention to projects of laws which are not of the slightest interest to their constituents, they are not individually nor in Congress collectively, well qualified to legislate over the local concerns of this District. Consequently, its interests are ~~almost wholly~~ much neglected, and the people are almost afraid to present their grievances, lest a body in which they are not represented and which feels no sympathy in their local relations, should, in its attempt to make laws for them, do more harm than good. Governed by the laws of the states whence they were severed, the two shores of the Potomac within the ten miles square, have different penal codes, not the present codes of Virginia and Maryland, but those which existed in those states at the time of the cession to the United States. As Congress will not form a new code and as the people of the District cannot make one for themselves, they see themselves virtually under two governments; and while all the world around them is advancing and improving in its legislation, they are doomed to stand still. Is it not just to this people to allow them at least a delegate in Congress, if not a local legislature to make laws for the District subject to the approbation or rejection of Congress? I earnestly recommend the extension to them, of every political right which is compatible with the constitution.

The extension of the Judiciary system of the United States is deemed to be one of the duties of government. One fourth of the states in the Union do not participate in the benefits of a Circuit Court. To the states of Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana, admitted into the Union since the present judicial system was organized, only a District Court has been allowed. If this be sufficient, then the Circuit

Court already existing in eighteen states, ought to be abolished; if it be not sufficient, the defect ought to be remedied and those states placed on the same footing as their sister states. It was on this condition and on this footing that they entered the Union, and they may demand Circuit Courts as a matter, not of concession, but of right. I trust Congress will not again adjourn, leaving this anomaly in our system.

Nothing has occurred to change the views heretofore expressed by me in relation to the Bank of the United States. On the contrary, the facts disclosed relative to the operations of the existing Bank, showing that its ~~annual~~ domestic exchanges for the last year were ninety millions of dollars, which, at one half per cent, might have yielded $450,000, prove, that an institution, which, without the power to discount, should perform the domestic exchange business of the United States at a very small premium, is not only practicable, but might be made the source of much profit.

In conclusion, permit me to invoke that Power which superintends all governments, to infuse into your deliberations at this important crisis of our history, a spirit of mutual forbearance and conciliation. In that spirit was our constitution formed, and in that spirit must our Union be preserved.[5] The time will come when it will no longer be considered the business of government to interfere with the opinions, professions or pursuits of men. What is Liberty but the power to think, speak and act as we please? And what government so well preserves Liberty as that which permits the people to think, speak and act as they please, consistently with the rights of others? The duty of government is to restrain the bad and let the good alone. To this conclusion will mankind come at last. We have made an approach to it which has excited the attention of the world; but we are far from being perfect. Our people yet look to their governments to help them along in the road to wealth and happiness; when they should look only for protection, and for the rest depend ~~only~~ on themselves. That is the perfection of regulated freedom. If we cannot at once have all things as we would, let us not cast away the means by which we have achieved so much and through which we have cause to expect so much more; but dismissing passion and her train of furies, urge on the march of reason and await her peaceful triumphs. In a few years she will bring us a plain, cheap government, content with the exercise of a pervading & protecting power, by the good neither seen nor felt, but considered by all, with a sentiment next to adoration, the preserver of all that is valuable in Liberty

AD, DLC (76).

1. AJ noted in the margin here: "power to sell Bank stock."

2. A subsequent text by Kendall replaced the next fifteen paragraphs with a single paragraph recommending a tariff revision "which shall produce a reduction of our revenues to the wants of the government," omitting mention of a surplus, distribution, or internal improvement. The delivered message closely followed this revised text (Richardson, 2:556).

3. The replaced text ends here. The delivered message followed with three paragraphs, not derived from Kendall's draft, discussing relief for insolvent debtors and the several Department reports (Richardson, 2:556–57).

4. The delivered message omitted this paragraph and subject.
5. The delivered message ended here.

Draft by Edward Livingston

[This draft furnished the basis for the message's opening passage and its review of foreign relations (Richardson, 2:544–54).]

Fellow Citizens of the Senate and H of R

The representation of the People has been renewed for the twenty second time since the constitution they framed has been in force. For near half a century the chief magistrates they have successively named have made their annual communications of the State of the Nation to its representatives. Generally these communications have been of ~~a~~ the most gratifying nature, testifying an advance in the all the improvements of social, and all the securities of Political life. But frequently ~~as you~~ and justly as you have been called on to be grateful for the bounties of providence, ~~on few occasions~~ at few periods have they been more abundantly or extensively bestowed rarely if ever have we had greater reason to congratulate each other on the continued and increasing prosperity of our beloved country

Agriculture the first and most important occupation of man has compensated the labors of the husbandman with plentiful crops of all the varied products of our extensive country. Never did plenty fill his garners with more abundant stores.

~~Our~~ manufactures have been established ~~which give constant business to the mechanic and~~ in which the funds of the capitalist find~~s~~ a profitable investment and which give employment and subsistence to a merous and increasing body of industrious & Dextrous mechanics.

The Labourer is rewarded by high wages in the contrustion of those numerous and extensive ~~works~~ public works of Internal improvement which are extending with unprecedented rapidity ~~subjecting the~~ Science is steadily penetrating the recesses of Nature and dis her secrets while the ingenuity of free minds is Subjecting the Elements to the power of man and making each new conquest auxiliary to his comfort. By our mails whose speed is every year increased & whose routes are every year extended the communication of public intelligence & private ~~communications~~ business are rendered frequent and safe. ~~and~~ the intercourse between distant cities is now carried on in a few days which formerly requiring weeks to accomplish ~~is now carried on in a few days~~ and in the construction of rail roads and the application of steam power we have a reasonable prospect that the extreme parts of ~~the Union~~ our Country will be so much approximated ~~and the~~ & those most ~~divided~~ isolated by the obstacles of nature ~~which divide others~~ will be rendered so accessible as to remove an apprehension some have entertained that the great extent of the Union would endanger its permanent existence

If from this satisfactory view of our agriculture manufactures and internal improvements we turn to the state of our navigation and trade with foreign nations and between the states we shall scarcely find less cause for gratulation. A beneficent providence has provided for its encouragement and exercise noble rivers, inland seas, an Extensive coast indented by capacious and navigable bays with a country ~~provided~~ productive of every material for navigation and every commodity for gainful commerce and he has placed in it a population active, intelligent, well informed & fearless of Danger. These advantages ~~have not been~~ are now not neglected, and an impulse has lately been given to commercial enterprize ~~that~~ which fills our ship yards with new constructions encourages all the arts & branches of industry connected with them crowds the wharves of our Cities with vessels—and covers the most distant seas with our ships.

Let us be grateful for these blessings to the beneficent being who has conferred them and suffered us to indulge a reasonable of their continuance and extension but never neglect the means by which ~~he has deigned to~~ they may be preserved. If we may dare to judge of his future designs by the manner in which his past favors have been conferred he has made our national prosperity to depend on the preservation of our Liberties, our national force on our political union and our individual happiness on the support of our state rights and wise institutions.

If we are prosperous at home and respected abroad, it is because we are free united ~~and attached~~ industrious and obedient to the Laws. While we continue so we shall by the blessing of heaven go on in the ~~glori~~ happy career we have begun and which has brought us in the short period of our political existence from a population of three to thirteen million ~~which~~ from a feeble and ill connected confederacy of thirteen divided colonies to a ~~well connected~~ union of twenty four independent state cemented by a common interest. ~~From the Indifference of the world to its respect~~ From a ~~place~~ rank scarcely marked in the scale of nations to a high place in their respect

This last advantage is one that has been produced by the principles which have guided our intercourse with Foreign Powers since we have assumed ~~our place amon~~ an equal station among them—and ~~to prove it nothing will more conduce than~~ the annual account which the Executive power renders to the Country of the manner in which that branch of his ~~functions~~ duties has been fulfilled will ~~greatly contribute to prove this advantage~~ will generally prove instructive and salutary I proceed to peform ~~that Duty~~ it

The Pacific and wise policy of our government kept us in a state of neutrality during the wars that have at different periods since our political existence been carried on by other powers but this policy although it gave activity and extent to our commerce exposed it in the same proportion to injuries from the belligerent nations. Hence have arisen claims of indemnity for those injuries. England, France Spain Holland Sweden, Denmark

Naples and lately Portugal had all in a greater or less degree infringed our neutral rights. Demands for reparation were made upon all. They have ~~all~~ in all, and continue to have in some cases, a leading influence on the nature of our relations with the powers on whom they were made

~~Those upon England were so serious as to produce bring on a war which has happily been succeeded by arrange~~ of the claims upon England it is unnecessary to speak further than to say that the ~~disagreeable~~ state of things to which their prosecution and denial gave rise has been succeeded by arrangements productive of mutual good feeling and amicable relations between the two countries which it is hoped will not be interrupted

One of these arrangements is that relating to the Colonial Trade which was communicated to Congress at the last session—and although the short period during which it has been in ~~operation~~ force will not enable me to ~~judge precisely of~~ form an accurate judgment of its operation there is every reason to believe that it will prove highly beneficial the trade thereby authorised has employed to the 30 Sept last upwards of 30000 tons of American ~~shipping~~ and 15000 tons of Foreign shipping in the outward voyages—and ~~about~~ on the inward nearly an Equal amount of American and 20000 only of foreign tonnage. Advantages too have resulted to our agricultural interests ~~(that were not foreseen)~~ from the state of the trade between Canada and our territories and States bordering on the St Lawrence and the Lakes which may prove more that equivalent to the loss sustained by the discrimination made to favor the trade of the Northern Colonies with the West indies

go on with page 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, & 16, & 17, of the folio of the quarto Draft.[1]

This rapid sketch of our foreign relations it is hoped fellow Citizens may be of some use in that part of your legislation which may bear on that important subject, while at the same time it affords to ~~our fellow Citizens~~ the Country at large a source of high gratification in the contemplation of our political and Commercial connection with the rest of the world. at peace with all, having subjects, ~~of~~ for future difference with few, and those susceptible of easy adjustment—extending our commerce gradually on all sides, and on none by any but the most liberal and mutually beneficial means—asking no exclusive privileges and giving none we may by the blessing of providence hope for all that national prosperity which can be derived from an intercourse with foreign nations guided by the eternal principles of Justice and reciproc~~ity~~al good will binding as well upon states as the individuals of which they are composed.

~~I feel the greater pleasure~~ ~~it gives me~~ ~~The reflexion~~

I derive great satisfaction ~~from this exposure~~ in making this statement of our affairs because the course of our national policy enables me to do it without ~~making~~ any indiscreet exposure of what in other governments is usually concealed from the people—having none but a straight forward

open course to pursue guided by a single principle that will bear the strongest light we have happily no political combinations to form—no alliances to entangle, no complicated interests to consult, and in subjecting all we have done to the consideration of our Citizens and to the inspection of the world we give no advantage to others nations and lay ourselves open to no injury

It may not be improper to add that to preserve this state of things, and give confidence to the world in the integrity of our designs—all our Consular and diplomatic agents are strictly enjoyned—to examine well, every cause of complaint preferred by our Citizens—& while they urge with proper earnestness those that are well founded to countenance none that are unreasonable or unjust—and to enjoin on our merchants and navigators ~~with~~ the strictest obedience to the laws of the Countries to which they resort, and a course of Conduct in their dealings that may support the Character of our Nation—and render us respected abroad

Connected with this subject I must recommend a revisal of ~~our laws for the government of~~ our Consular laws. defects and omissions have been discovered in their operation that ought to be remedied and ~~subject~~ supplied. For your further information on this subject I have directed a report to be made by the Secretary of State which I shall hereafter submit to your consideration

AD, DLC (76).

1. From here the delivered message continued to review American relations with Britain, France, Sweden, Denmark, Spain, Naples, Portugal, Russia, Austria, Germany, Turkey, Sumatra, Mexico, Central America, Colombia, Chile, Peru, Brazil, and Buenos Aires (Richardson, 2:546–53). Fragmentary drafts of this section by Livingston and Donelson survive, but no connected text.

To Samuel Jackson Hays

Washington Decbr. 6th. 1831

My Dr Samuel.

I have just received your kind letter by Doctor Young—its delay had occasioned some anxiety, not having recd. any information from you, or any other of our friends in that quarter, since Dr. Butler left us.[1] As you were all enjoying health at its date, I hope you all enjoy that blessing still.

I have recd. today, a letter from Genl Call, giving the malancholy intelligence of the death of Col Butlers youngest son, and of his continued bad health. The loss of his two children is a severe bereavement, and in his bad state of health prays upon his spirits, I hope that he will not permit his energy to leave him on this trying occasion. I will write him the first leisure moment.[2]

Congress met & on yesterday formed a quorum, & proceeded to business and this day at meridian, I transmitted to them the message of which

the enclosed is a copy—it has been well received by our friends, and has confounded my enemies. I think it will destroy nullification.

When will you be here—or at what period do you visit your friends at Charleston I have just received Governor Hamiltons Message to the Legislature of So. Carolina, & as it relates to the part, ~~that~~ in which he bestows his criticism on my letter to the committee of Charleston, it is the most uncandid, & unjust, that ever was made. You know the high opinion I had of his candor & truth. I am compelled to believe that he lacks both, and the notice I now take of his want of them, is to put you upon your guard, in the settlement of the estate—for be assured, that he who betrays a want of truth & candor in one instance, will do the same in any other where his interest is concerned.[3] His 4 of July oration, which was sent me the other day, in which he attempts to disclose a private conversation had, & held, with me, even if he had stated the truth, was one of the most dishonorable acts, that any Gentleman could have committed, but it was still worse, when he deviated from the truth—he has kept too much company with Mr. Calhoun to retain his veracity & honor.[4] I heard a high minded South Carolinian a citizen of Charleston say the other day, that he was in possession of proof to shew that Major Hamilton was as depraved, & as ambitious as Calhoun, & would destroy his friend, secretely, at any time, to exalt himself. I have thought it my duty to give you these hints, that you may be guarded with him, & that you may look at him, & judge the tree by its fruit—and that you may do this, without exciting his suspicions, that you are survaying his acts. When you visit So. Carolina I shall expect you to take this in your rout. I am anxious to *[see m]*y namesake as well, as your Dr Frances, & yourself.

My son has presented me with an amiable, & accomplished daughter *pretty, & well accomplished*, with whom I am much pleased.

Eatons appeal has been well received all over the union—it has prostrated forever, Calhoun Ingham Branch, & Berrien, & ere long, they will be sunk in oblivion, only to be thought of, from their degradation

give my kind salutations to all friends, in which Andr[ew &] Sarah, Lewis & Earle, cor[dially] unite—your affectiona*[te uncle]*

Andrew [Jackson]

P.S. write me. A. J.

P.S. Major Donelson Emily & Mary Eastin unite in kind salutations to you *all*.

ALS, Samuel J. Hays (19-0168).

1. William Edward Butler (1790–1882) was Hays's brother-in-law.

2. Robert Butler's son Andrew Jackson Butler (1828–1831) died on November 17. His daughter Mary Lucinda had died on September 2.

3. South Carolina governor James Hamilton Jr. was an executor of the estate of his late cousin John Middleton, father of Samuel Hays's wife Frances. Hamilton's annual message to the legislature on November 29 had denounced AJ's June 14 letter to John Stoney and the South Carolina Unionists (above). Hamilton remarked the "extraordinary anomaly" of

a president violating his duty by taking sides in a state political dispute, and branded AJ's hint of force an "empty menace itself," yet marking "by unerring and portentous tokens, the inevitable tendency of consolidation to military despotism." He challenged legislators "to meet this threat, and to repel the charge on which it is founded, in a manner worthy of the people whom you represent" (Charleston *Courier*, December 3, 1831).

4. In a July 4 speech at Charleston, Hamilton had said that AJ told him shortly after the inauguration in 1829 that he was "exceedingly desirous" of having Hamilton in the Cabinet, but that objection had been raised because of Hamilton's violent opposition to the tariff. Hamilton said he had then told AJ that, "however complimented and obliged" he was by the honor of the invitation, he was "infinitely more highly honored by the grounds on which I had been excluded" (*Proceedings of the Celebration of the 4th July, 1831, at Charleston, S. C. by the State Rights and Free Trade Party*, pp. 25–26).

From David Morison

Nashville December 6, 1831—

Dear Sir

I have the satisfaction to inform you that the addition and emprovements to the Hermitage are compleated, I have in addition to the emprovements as exhibeted on the plan furnished you erected a neet and appropriate Portico on the back side of the center building which adds verry much to the cumfort and convenience of your dwelling—

The Hermitage as emproved presents a frunt of 104 feet, the wings project 9 feet in frunt of the center building and a[re] conected by a colonnade of the same breadth. The colonnade consists of 10 lofty columns of the *Doric* order the entablature is carved through the whole line of frunt, and has wreaths of laurel leaves in the freeze. on the cornice is raised a blocking corse that support an appropriate baleustrade. The upper story consists of a Portico surmounted by a pediment which breaks the monotony of the composition in a verry satisfactory manner

The meterials employd in the emprovements are all of the best quality the neighbourhood affords. the colonnade is coverd with the best copper the sheets weighing from 12 to 14 lb, each sheet, and the gutters that convey the watter from the frunt to back are also of copper the wing buildings and Portcos are roofd with good ceader shingels The old Kitchen is removed and the meterials employd in the erction of a large and commodious smoke-house which is placed on a line with the new Kitchen. The internal erangements are almost to my mind, the dining-room is large and will dine 100 persons at one time comfortable, the wing at the Est end contains the liabrary a large and commodious room, an overseer room, and a couverd way that protects the three doors leading to the library overseer room and to the back parlor—

In the progress of the emprovements I adherd as closely to the plan furnished you as circumstances would admit, the only alteration I have mad is in adding 2 feet to the lenth of the Kitchen and 20 feet to the lenth

of the Est wing, the latter was don at the request and with the advice of Gen. Coffey—which additions I hope will meet with your approbation—

The following is the amount that has been expended ~~including~~ independent of what has been done by your one hands

cash to stone cuter stone masons & brick layers		$491.00
"	To carpenters & joiners	678.00
"	To Painters & glasers	187.00
"	" Plasterer	168.00
"	" Copper copper smiths & tinners	350.00
"	" Lumber & shingels	468.50
"	" Hardwares glass &c	110.00
"	" Turners bill	25.00
"	" Halling lumber from Nashville	11.00
		$2488.50

You will prceive by this account, notwithstanding the several additions, the back Portico, and many additional expenses incident to such emprovements, I have been able to affect it with a less sume than the original estimate which to me is a source of gratulation. With respect to any hope of pecuniary emolument, I must [en]treat you to believe that no such sordid motiv entered into my views. To merit your approbation has been my ambition, to succeed in obtaining it is my best reward. I have receved in addition to the fifteen hundred Dollars the amount of your check. Five hundred Dollars from Mr. Josia Nicholl, making Two thousand Dollars leiving a ballance of Fore hundred & Eighty eight Dollars—

On the recept of your letter of the 18th of August (for which I return you my thanks for the expressions of kindness it contains) I employd an experiancd Stone-cutter in whome I have entire confidence who is progressing with the Temple & monument—it will be composd intire of stone. the massiveness of the parts of the *Grecian Doric Order* requires a material of great Strenght and solidity such as the white stone of this neighbourhood and when this can be obtained it must always be a subject of regret that recourse should be had to any imitation of it however exact; but I found it empossible to get ceader timber large enough to be wrought into the forms required; The principle cost of this substantial and highly ornamental improvement consists in the hire of stone cutters, and the purchase of copper for the couvering the doom. I expect in the progress of this work to have the ade of your one hands & teems in quarry & halling the stone, which will enable me to bestoe an additional quantity of labour on the building, in order that it may fully meet publick expecttation. I am anxious to have it finished as soon in the spring as poseble in as much as I will be necssery detaind hear to direct the operation of the workmen in order that it may be in conformity to the plan furnished you—

I have made a drawing of the Hermitage as improved, which is in the hands of an experiancd ingeneer, it will make a splendid pictue and as soon as it is finished I will send you a copy which will give you a better idea of the buildings than any written discription I can give. My best respets to your son

Mrs. M. joins with me in tendering you, *not our complements*, but our Kindest & best wishes.[1] I am your much obldged

D. Morison

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr Morrison recd. & answered & bill for $300 enclosed to Mr Morrison on Josiah Nichol A. J. To be preserved A J

ALS, THer (19-0205). David Morison or Morrison (b. 1797) was a prominent Nashville architect.

1. Morison's wife was Amelia Dillman Morison (b. c1801).

To William Donelson

(Private)

Washington Decbr. 7th. 1831—

Dear William

I have received your letter of the 20th. ultimo, and size the first leisure moment, that has been afforded since its receipt to reply to it. Congress met on Monday last, & preparing for it has employed us very much for some time, and by the mail that takes this will convay my Message to you—it has met with the approbation of my friends, and silenced my enemies. Clay & Calhoun will find but little room for attack.

On the subject of the Lots of land of Samuels & Alexander Donelson I have barely time to remark, that to gratify my son I will purchase them—for Samuels, I will pay on making a tittle, or you executing a bond for the convayence of Samuels lot as laid out and marked by the commissioners the sum of fourteen hundred dollars payable on or before the first day of April next (If it should be from any pressing cause, necessary that the mony should be paid sooner, I will raise it.) if I receive the cash for Bolivar, I, will pay at any time thereafter, if I fail in this, I will have my cotton in markett soon, & by that time, will agree to pay to your order presented here the above amount of *$1400*.[1] For Alexanders, I will give the same amount to be paid on the 25th. day of Decbr. 1832—on you and John Donelson giving your bonds, for the convayence of Alexanders lot, as marked & laid off. I have money owing to me, that I can collect to meet the payment of the purchase of the latter Tract, but I cannot agree to pay interest, because as you justly remark it is a high price for the land, and perhaps more than it will ever hereafter bring. On the receipt of this write me, that if the contract about Saml's Lot be closed, I must make arrange-

ments to meet it with punctuality, and from my accumulated expences here I must look else where than my salary to meet it.

My son has presented me with a daughter amiable and accomplished, which has added to my expences a little, but as he has made, ~~as~~ I believe, a good & prudent choice, I am cheerful in meeting it. I am well pleased with his little sarah; I have no doubt from her amiable disposition she will endeavour, in all things, to add to my happiness. Andrew will present her to his friends at the Hermitage next Spring.

The last purchase I made of Capt Mosely, to gratify Andrew and to benefit Thomas, between whom their are a sympathy of feeling & attachment, that can only be accounted for, from their being twinns, I told him that he might exchange the two hundred & fifty acres with his brother for his lot of land adjoining Samuel & Alexander. This exchange is made, and Thomas writes Andrew that Albert Ward wants to buy the lot out of him and has offered fifteen dollars per acre. Mr. Ward cannot buy this lot because Major Donelson, informs me, that he has treated him badly about part of Mr Watsons tract adjoining him that he was in treaty for. But I wish you to see Mr Ward, and say to him, that I will exchange Thomass Lot acre for acre, Beginning at My south west corner, run south so far as will, by running due east to Stoners Lick Creek, include the same number of acres as are in the Lot got from Thomas. This will add to Major Andrews tracts as much of Watsons as will give him the spring, and an outlet for pasture and will add to mine which I intend for my son, what will be as valuable as Thomases Lot, altho Thomases, is much ~~the most~~ more valuable than Wards and its situation very desirable to Mr Ward. This is the only way Mr Ward can get that Lot & this you can say to him, and was it not to gratify & benefit Major Donelson, I would not make this exchange. I wish you to see Mr Ward upon the receipt of this, & write me the result. See Mr Thomas J. Donelson, and tell him also, to say to Mr Ward that by exchange is the only way he can get it.

I have a great desire to be informed of the size and appearance of my stud colt, ~~the~~ (Citizen) out of my pacolet filly that died, by Stockholder, and my Sir William stud colt, out of the Oscar filly, as well as the two year old, guelded, colt by Sir William, out of the sway back mare. Will you have the goodness to see them & give me a description of them, as well as my other colts, but particularly the Citizen by Stockholder, and the two, two years old, by Sir William out of the oscar filly & sway back. I had great hopes of the Citizen, and the stud colt out of the oscar filly would make first rate runners, and I think so still. I want your description of them, & the two year old guelding out of sway back.

I thank you for the flattering account you give me of my cotton crop—hope it may turn out as well as you anticipate. It is now 12 at night & I must close. Present my kind salutations to Elizabeth, & to all the connection—say to them we are all well, and the Major, Emily, Mary Eastin,

Andrew and Sarah, with Mr Earle, being my whole family, join in kind salutations to all, & believe me yr friend

Andrew Jackson

Photocopy of ALS, TU (mAJs). Arrangements to purchase Samuel and Alexander Donelson's lots for AJ Jr. continued into 1832.

1. The text rendered here in parentheses is in the margin, marked for insertion.

To the United States Senate

[On December 7, Jackson submitted the Northeast boundary arbitration award to the Senate. Printed here are two drafts of the message, the first by Louis McLane and the second by Edward Livingston. An intermediate draft by Andrew J. Donelson was a clean copy of McLane's with slight alterations. Livingston's draft closely resembled the message as delivered. The message was printed in confidence for the Senate with its attachments, and later without the attachments in Richardson and in the Senate Executive Proceedings.*]*

Draft by Louis McLane

I have the honor lay before the Senate for their advice and consent the decision of the King of the Netherlands to whom the points of difference which have arisen in the settlement of the boundary between the American and British Dominions as described in the fifth Article of the Treaty of Ghent ~~was~~ were referred as Arbiter pursuant to the convention between the U. S. ~~of A.~~ & G. B. concluded at London on the 29. of September 1827 &c

It will be observed ~~that~~ by the 7. Article of ~~this conv~~ the aforesaid convention that the decision of the arbiter when given is to be taken as final and conclusive; and to be carried without reserve into immediate effect by commissioners appointed for that purpose by the contracting parties

Considering the decision itself, as well as the acts and negotiations incident thereto as branches of the Treaty power, the final action thereupon is not deemed to be within the competency of the ~~President~~ Executive without the interposition of the Senate.

Together with the decision of the arbiter and the correspondence relative thereto I have the honor to communicate ~~the~~ a protest ~~presented by~~ which our late Minister at the Hague ~~and~~ thought it proper to make, and also several communications from the Executive of the state of Maine presenting the objections which in their opinion may be taken to the validity & propriety of the decision ~~made by~~ of the arbiter.[1]

Although the utmost respect is felt for those objections as well from the ~~nature of the objections~~ principles involved, as the highly respectable source whence they emanate, yet upon due consideration of the subject

in all its bearing upon the character of the government and the peace and lasting interests of the country I am constrained to believe that there is no sufficient reason to decline executing the convention at London of the 29 Septr. 1827.

Should the Senate be of opinion that the sacrifice which it is supposed by the state of Maine will be sustained by her citizens by reason of this decision of the arbiter requires from the general government any equivalent which may be conceded consistently with the interests of the rest of the states my ready concurrence in such measures as Congress may desire for that purpose may be confidently relied upon.

[Endorsed by AJ:] project—North E. Boundery—L. ML. to be kept—A. J.

Draft by Louis McLane, DLC (40; 19-0245). Draft in AJ Donelson's hand, NjP-Livingston Papers (mAJs). AJ endorsed Donelson's draft "a project of a message to accompany the award of the King of the Netherlands on the referrence to him for decision of the North East boundery."

1. On the Donelson draft, AJ inserted "on his own responsibility" after "thought it proper" in this sentence.

Draft by Edward Livingston

~~Gentlemen of the Senate~~
To the Senate of the United States,

In my public message to both houses I communicated the state in which I had found the controverted claims of G B. & the U S. in relation to our Northern & eastern Boundary—and the measures which since my coming into office I had pursued to bring it to a close—together with the fact that on the 10th. day of January Last the Sovereign Arbiter had delivered his opinion to the plenipotentiaries of the U S. and G. B.

I now transmit to ~~the Senate a copy of~~ you that opininion for ~~the purpose of asking their advice~~ your consideration that you may determine whether you will advise a submission to the opinion delivered by the Sovereign Arbiter and consent to its execution

That you may the better be enabled to judge on the obligation as well as the expediency of submitting to or rejecting the Decision of the Arbiter, I herewith transmit.

1st. A protest made by the Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States ~~made~~ after receiving the opinion of the King of the Netherlands—on which paper it may be necessary to remark, that ~~as the Presi~~ I had always determined whatever might have been the decision of the Sovereign Arbiter ~~not to have taken~~ to have submitted the same to the Senate for their advice before I executed or rejected it Therefore no instructions were given to the Ministers to do any act that should commit the government as to the course it might deem proper to pursue on a full consideration of all the circumstances of the case

2 The Despatches from our minister at the Hague accompanying the protest as well as those previous & subsequent thereto in relation to the subject of the Submission.

3d. Communications between the Department of State and the ~~Exec~~ Governor of the State of Maine in relation to this Subject

4. Correspondence between the Chargé Daffaires of his Britannic Majesty and the Department of State in relation to the arrest of certain persons at Madawasca—under the authority of the British Government of New Brunswick[1]

It is proper to add that in addition to the Evidence derived from Mr. Prebles despaches of the inclination of the british Government to abide by the award, ~~I have received~~ assurances to the same Effect have been ~~made~~ informally made to our Minister at London and that an official communication on that subject may very soon be expected—[2]

Draft, DNA-RG 59 (19-0249). DS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0241). "Northeast Boundary," p. 1; *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:179–80; Richardson, 2:559.

1. In September, New Brunswick authorities had arrested and imprisoned three Americans for attempting to organize a Maine town government at Madawaska, a part of the disputed region under acting British jurisdiction. They were released in November following an appeal from Livingston to British chargé Charles Bankhead. AJ reconveyed the correspondence to the Senate in a public message on December 13 (*SDoc* 3, 22d Cong., 1st sess., Serial 212).

2. Bankhead wrote Livingston on December 20, officially communicating his government's decision to accept the award and its conviction that the arbiter's compromise line was the only solution to an otherwise hopeless impasse (DNA-RG 59, M50-16). AJ conveyed his letter to the Senate on December 21.

From Silas Enoch Burrows

Private

Decr 7th 1831.
Baltimore

My Dear Sir

I regret to say I am confined here by illness, and know not when it will be possible to renew my journey for the north, over the dreary, winter road.

Sickness is, at all times to be dreaded but it is peculiarly hard when seperated from home, from all those we love, and alone dependent on strangers. There is a soothing sound of comfort, and encouragement, in the voices, of those who are near, and *dear*, to us, that has far more influence, in rallying the resources of nature, to counteract disease, than every aid medicine can afford. Far however am I from repining at my present situation, when I contrast it with what it has often been. Through fourteen nations have I traveled encountering all the incidents to which a traveler is exposed and can enumerate private suffering, that appears incredible.

The kind assurances that you *deigned* to express, when last with you of extending your friendship in introducing me under your favour, to some fair one, justifies me, I hope *you* will think, in writing this friendly letter. It is a *tribute* of the *heart*, to that *good man*, who has perfected the happiness of his country, and by whom I have recd. through the Secy of State Mr Van Buren, the thanks of the "President of the U States, for having added lustre and brilliancy to the commercial character of my country."—and for this I felt duly indebted, but when added to this I reflect on your last confidence reposed in me, I feel every tie that nature has implanted in the breast of man.[1] I think you have it in your power, to make me happy, and the writer of this in his, equally so, the fair creature to whom he is to be, (or *has been*) introduced

With her I want not wealth, the dependant orphan is to me far preferable to any one, who has riches and power at her disposal. I want those domestic qualities that will at my *Hermitage* make life glide smoothly on, like a summer sea, and that disposition, the aim of which, will be, the gratification of her husbands wishes; endowed with those accomplishments, that will make her when surrounded by the brilliancy of fashionable life, the *pride* and *idol* of a husbands eye, the admiration of every tongue. I *hope*, I do not ask too much. I have once been thus happily situated.[2]

You will see by the accompanying letter of your old friend Barron Krudener, (that I intended to have shewn you when in Washington, that you might know how much he regrets having left you) that I must visit St Petersburg in the Spring, and had I not best take with me *one*, that you would be willing to admit, as the female representative, of our Nation? Yes one that in a foreign land shall honor our "*beautiful* and *noble* country."[3] Pardon me, I fear too long has your goodness been taxed, ~~by me~~ but confinement, with but few resources, is my appology. I am dear Sir your sincere friend & most Obt Servant

Silas E. Burrows

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr. Burrows—Baltimore—sick—providence will soon restore him to health I hope, A. J.

ALS, DLC (40 & 59; 19-0216). AJ replied on December 8 (below).

1. In 1830 the schooner *Superior*, owned by Burrows, had come to the aid of the storm-crippled *Kensington*, which was carrying Russian minister to the U.S. Paul Baron de Krudener (1784–1858) and his entourage to St. Petersburg. Burrows declined Krudener's offer of payment for the rescue. On September 30, 1830, Van Buren wrote Burrows officially "that by your generous refusal of all pecuniary or other remuneration for this opportune service to strangers in distress, you have imparted new lustre to the commercial character of the U.S. . . . It is the wish of the President, therefore, that I should offer to you the tribute of his particular thanks for your disinterested and benevolent conduct" (DNA-RG 59, M40-21).

2. The "dependant orphan" was likely Mary Ann Eastin. Mary Van Buskirk, Burrows's wife of ten years, had died on January 30, 1831.

3. Burrows enclosed a letter Baron de Krudener had written him on September 2, promising him a warm welcome in St. Petersburg and lamenting that "every day increases my regret at having left *your* beautiful and *noble* country" (DLC-40).

To Silas Enoch Burrows

Washington Decbr. 8th. 1831

Dr. Sir,

I have recd. your letter of the 7th instant and regret indeed to hear of your confinement aggravated as it is by the absence of those supports which are usually supplied by the attentions of those we have left at *home*. There can be nothing more true than that there is a medicine in the gratification of our affections ~~which the most skillful Physician~~ far more potent than the prescription of the most skilful Physicians and often placed beyond our reach either by ~~the mis~~ our own misfortunes or those ~~frailties which result from the misfortunes of others~~ of others. In your case however I am inclined to doubt whether you have any right to complain; or rather whether you are not wilfully inflicting upon yourself the pain which you are desirous of relieving.

If I understand your situation you have left behind you a young lady under my protection whom you would be willing to crown as the ~~object of your~~ queen of your hermitage, and the dispenser of that bliss ~~which flows from the cultivation of the affections of conjugal love~~ the absence of which so much afflicts ~~you in~~ your confinement at Baltimore. If so I can only say that I am exercising that protection for the benefit of the young lady; and that I am ready to resign it to the object of her choice and love whenever he is designated to me. I take a deep interest in her welfare ~~and am satisfied that she merits all the happiness which can flow be derived~~ and am therefore anxious that she should not contract the marriage relations without possessing the highest guarantee for her future comfort and happiness. ~~With these however, the guardian and parent ought not to interfere further than to be sure that the object of her choice is~~ In obtaining these however, the parent and guardian cannot look with safety beyond the character and standing of the object of choice. All else ~~the taste~~ is fancy or taste which the parties have a right to gratify.

It gives me pleasure to assure you, ~~that~~ from the knowledge ~~which~~ I possess of your character and standing in life, should the young lady to whom you allude reciprocate the attachment ~~which~~ you ~~have professed~~ profess for her I ~~would~~ will cheerfully resign her to your hands. On this point however, you must satisfy yourself, and in the mean time ~~will~~ may expect to find a hearty welcome in the house[.] ry. sert

Draft in AJ Donelson's hand, DLC (40). Abstract of LS, *Christian Science Monitor*, January 8, 1916. Mary Ann Eastin married Lucius J. Polk in 1832.

From James Terrill

Boone Coty, Ky
8 Decr. 1831

Dear Genl.

before this address reaches, you will have recd. a remonstrace from Judge Flournoy & myself on the subject of our runaway negroes that we have good reasons to beleave are in upper Caneday and we have no redress unless you will be so good as to interfere in our behalf & procure from the Govenor there an order when applyed for to apprehend & bring them off Judge Flournoy has one there and I had also a Valuable fellow who left me last spring we are not the only sufferer's here but M Bosley Col Cave Johnson & Mr J Kertley have four there these men are all warm hearted friends of Your administration & look to you for some redress if consistant with good policy and the nature of the Governments, there are also many other sufferers a Mr Arnold has lost all his went off not long since the evil is a growing one & if not stoped will ruin many of the Citizens of this state & if you could interfere and procure us some relief the People of the state would rise almost enmass in their warmth & zeal for the furthence of the present admr. but rest asshured Sir, that independent of this the administration is becomeing more popular in this state notwithstanding the late Elections for I do beleave if the Vote was now put to the People that the present admistration would receive a large m[ajority] this Sir is not said to influence you as I know You will do what you think is right in this matter but I feel so much solicitude for the welfare and good of the present admistration that I cant but exp[ress] my thoughts on the subject.

I hope Sir, You will not think me presuming too much to address you on this subj[ect] for was I the only sufferer I should have been silent on the subjt but those who has lost negroes are urjent on the subject understanding that I was personally known to you & had served under you in the army, & If I have too much s[olic]itude on the subject I hope you attribute *[it]* to the loss I feel & the Yielding to this wishes of my neighbours & Your friends: may I expect to he[ar] from you on the Subject.[1]

Wishing you health and happiness and a properous & Succeeding admr. I am with all respect & esteem Your mo Ob St

James Terrill

[Endorsed by AJ:] To be shown to the Sec. of State, and him consulted on the subject—Mr V. B. has my instructions to make, if he can some arrangements on this subject—A. J.[2]

ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-71). Cave Johnson (1760–1850), uncle of Richard M. Johnson, and Jeremiah Kirtley (1783–1844) were prominent Boone County residents and public

officials. Bosley may have been George Leonidas Balsley (1787–1849), another leading citizen of Boone.

1. Terrill had commanded a Tennessee cavalry company under AJ against the Creeks in 1813.

2. AJ wrote Van Buren on December 17 (below).

To Anthony Butler

[The italicized words in this text were written in a numeric code. They have been decoded using the key in Ralph E. Weber, United States Diplomatic Codes and Ciphers, 1775–1938 *(Chicago: Precedent Publishing, 1979), pp. 478–89. The code did not include symbols for capitalization. Capitals are supplied here, and one apparent coding error has been corrected in following brackets.]*

Washington, December 9th. 1831.

My dear Sir,

Your letters of the 6th and 25th of Octr. last have been received. The apprehensions which they express, that Mexico will soon be convulsed with another civil war, are a source of deep regret. Abounding as that country does, in so many sources of wealth and prosperity, it is a subject of wonder that the motives for peace and good government exercise so little influence among the great body of the people.

I approve of the *caution* with *which you disclose your views* in *regard to* the *boundary*. The *objection of* a *want* of *constitutional power in* the *supreme government* doubtless *arises from* an *apprehension that* the *public mind is not yet* sufficiently *enlightened* to *sustain* it *as a measure* of *sound policy. It can* scarcely *be supposed that* the *supreme power* of *Mexico* is *divested of* the *right* to *dispose* of *its domain* especially of *a part that is* the *subject* of *negotiation in* the *settlement* of a *boundary between* it *and* another *power*.

As you are aware of the *great importance of* the *cession* of *Texas* to *us* in *maintaining future peace* and *good neighborhood between the United States and* Mexico *I have* only to *add in relation to* this *subject* generally that *I hope you* will *urge it at as early a day as you can* with *propriety* and *a prospect* of *success*.

We are anxiously looking for the arrival of the commercial Treaty, which from your last despatch of the 25th Octr. we had a right to expect in November.[1]

Congress is now in session. I send you, herewith, a copy of my message, delivered to both houses last tuesday. The Secretary of State will also forward by this conveyance the current newspapers.

My dear Sir, write us often; and *keep steadily* in *view* the *boundary* and *ki [its] importance to* the future *peace of* the *2 countries* Your despatch by the way of New Orleans has not come to hand.

December 20th. 1831

The above has from inadvertence laid on my table since its date. In the interval your letter of the 3d of November has been recd. and its contents duly noted.[2] It is a source of the highest gratification to me to be informed that in a few days we may expect to be in possession of the Treaty. After its receipt you shall hear from me fully on the other questions of interest growing out of the relations of the two countries

Your request in behalf of your nephew has been attended to. I remain as usual Yr. friend and most obedient sert

Andrew Jackson

LS, TxU (19-0273). The December 9 text is in Nicholas Trist's hand and the December 20 text is in AJ Donelson's.

1. Butler had reported to Livingston on October 25 that there was "no doubt" the commercial treaty would be ratified and ready to send to the U.S. in November (*HRDoc* 351, 25th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 402–3, Serial 332).

2. In a November 2 dispatch probably sent with his November 3 letter, Butler again voiced "no doubt" of the treaty's being ratified and forwarded in November (*HRDoc* 351, 25th Cong., 2d sess., p. 406, Serial 332). He wrote AJ about it on December 23 and 26 (below).

To Robert Love

Washington City
Decbr. 10th. 1831

My Dear Sir,

Your kind letter of the 17th. ultimo has been recd. some days, but the pressure of business incident to the meeting of a new congress has not allowed me an opportunity to reply to it earlier than the present.

Had I the power to grant the priviledge which you have asked for, there is no individual for whose benefit I would exercise it more freely than yours. According to my understanding of the nature of the possessory rights which the Indians, within the limits of Georgia, enjoy, they do not include the right of working the mines with which their lands may abound: in as much as this right has ever been considered as following the domain from which it cannot be seperated but by positive grant. Georgia by the extension of her laws over these lands, having never considered her fee simple in them as in the slightest degree interrupted by the possession of the Indians, must exercise the same controul over the mines and minerals within her limits, that the United States would be entitled to exercise over such as might be found in any of the Territories. In this respect Georgia is not in the same situation with Alabama and some of the other states who have derived their titles from the United States who still retain the fee simple of the lands yet unsold, and who of course could

work the mines as ~~any other~~ the proprietors of lands in No. Carolina and elsewhere now do.

From these hints you will perceive that I regard Georgia alone as competent to grant the privilege of digging the gold mines in the lands of the Indians lying within her limits; and that the President of the United States has nothing to do with the subject

I take this ~~libert~~ occasion to inclose my message with the documents accompanying it, made to the present congress, which I hope you will accept as a token of my friendship & regard & believe me yr friend signed

A. J

[Endorsed by AJ:] copy to Col Robert Love Decbr 10th. 1831—sent to Raleigh, No Carolina—

LS draft by AJ Donelson, DLC (40). The last paragraph is in AJ's hand. On the letter's reverse is a crossed-out draft by AJ of its dateline, salutation, and first sentence.

To Lewis Cass

Decbr. 12th. 1831—

The President with his respects to the Secretary of War—refers the within papers for his perusal. Col Piatt is an old an valuable officer, and faithful to his duty. Therefore, unless the *public service should require his removal, he ought to be indulged with his present position*. I have no doubt, if ordered to Jefferson Barracks, he must resign, as he believes that station would soon destroy him.

AN, DNA-RG 107 (M221-111). William Piatt (1773–1834), an Army officer from 1801 to 1815, had been AJ's quartermaster general at New Orleans and an Ohio Jackson presidential elector in 1828. AJ had appointed him an Army paymaster in 1830. He had been stationed at Cincinnati, where he remained.

To James Alexander Hamilton

December 12, 1831.

Dear Sir:

I am happy to find by your letter of the 8th instant that my message suits your views in common with my friends generally in New York. In relation to the Bank, I thought it useless to make an unnecessary repetition of the objections which were stated in my former messages, as some of my friends are persuaded that something more explicit than has been

stated would have had a good effect in preventing an error into which some have fallen, to wit, that I have changed my ground on that subject. A superficial reading of Mr. McLane's report was also calculated to lead to the same false conclusion. But it is now generally admitted, I think, after a considerate examination of Mr. McLane's views, that he does not express any opposition to those entertained by myself; although it is obvious that his solicitude to obtain a new charter so modified as to free the institution from the objections of the Executive, springs from convictions much more favorable than mine of the general character and conduct of the institution.

Mr. McLane and myself understand each other, and have not the slightest disagreement about the principles, which will be a *sine qua non* in my assent to a bill rechartering the Bank.

Believe me to be, most sincerely your friend.

Printed, *Reminiscences of James A. Hamilton*, p. 234 (19-0289).

From Llewellyn Jones

Virginia Nottoway County 12th. Decemr. 1831

I have not yet purchased for your son the negroes you requested me to buy for him last spring. No favourable oppertunity offered to send them to Tennessee last summer before the insurrection in Southampton County in this state. After that tragical event I delayed purchasing ~~them~~ under the impression that they would not sustain the prices that they had previously been selling for. In this opinion I have not been disappointed

A nephew of Colo. Wards (and a relation of mine also) intends removing his family to the Western District of Tennessee next spring, By him I shall most certainly send them, He will pass through the neighbourhood of the Hermitage and has promised to take charge of them. By the inclosed advertisment you will observe that our friend the Honl. John Randolph has advertised upwards of 100 of his slaves for sale.[1] I shall visit him in course of the present month and although he advertises them to be sold in families I think it probable he will sell me the four wanted for your son. I prefer purchasing them from him; I have frequently been at his house and know something of the regular discipline to which his slaves are accustomed, and had much rather purchase them out of an estate under such management as Mr. Randolphs than out of one I know nothing about. Mrs. Jones requests to be respectfully remembered to you, and to say to you that she shall ever retain a grateful remembrance of your and her lamented friend Mrs Jacksons attention and politeness to her when a stranger & among strangers

I shall always be glad of an oppertunity to render you service, and of convincing you, that no one wishes more than I do, that your eventful and useful life, may long be preserved, for your own sake, for your friends, and that of your country. I have the honor to be with every sentiment of private respect and public gratitude most sincerely and faithfully Your friend

Lew Jones

My regular post office is Macfarlands Va. To which I send every week L. J

[Endorsed by AJ Donelson:] Lew Jones of Va says that he will buy the negroes promised of John Randolph of roanoke

ALS, DLC (40). On March 25, 1832, AJ wrote Jones not to further pursue his purchase of two boys and two girls for AJ Jr., unless already made.

1. Jones's relation was probably a son of the late Chamberlayne Jones, whose sister Ann had married AJ's neighbor Edward Ward (d. 1837). Jones enclosed a clipping of John Randolph's notice advertising "upwards of one hundred prime Virginia born slaves," to be sold in families. Dated November 23, the notice first ran in the *Richmond Enquirer* on December 2.

From Mary Crawford Dunlap

Lancaster Ville S. C. Dec 13 1831

Mrs. Dunlap acknowledges the recpt. (thro' her friend and relative Col. Williams) of the very kind communication, and a treasured memento, from one of her earliest and most esteemed friends Genl. Andrew Jackson. With feelings of gratitude to the Author of all good, she informs the Genl. she now possesses and has for many years enjoyed good health—and that tho many of the dear objects of her tenderest regard have been removed, she is still consoled in the affection and attentions of three surviving Children.[1]

The Genl. has feelingly alluded to the joyous days of youth, of the endearments of early friendship, as affording subjects of pleasurable reflection to him after the lapse of years, and the many vicissitudes of his truly eventfull life. The writer assures him, she fully participates in the pleasure of recalling scenes long past, but never to be forgotten. Absorbed as you must necessarily be, in the discharge of the duties resulting from the elevated and responsible station you occupy, the writer cannot but receive your notice and present, as a token of friendship; in return for which, permit her to present her sincere thanks, to one, who in youth she esteemed for his noble generosity, and in age, she reveres for his heroism displayed in defence of "Beauty and Booty"

Mary Dunlap

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mrs. Mary Dunlap. friendly—private A. J. answer to his friendly note which is within A. J To be preserved

ALS, DLC (40).

1. Mary's living children were daughter Eliza Jane Dunlap Jones (c1789–1853) and sons George Washington Dunlap (1795–1860) and Samuel Ferguson Dunlap (1799–1834).

From Samuel Jackson Hays

Woodlawn
Dec. 13th. 1831

Dr. Uncle

Your favor of the 24th. Ult. came safe to hand with its enclosures. I have written Maj Hamilton acknowledging the recpt. of the draft forwarded me.

I shew your kind letter to Sister Lydia, & she desires me to tender you her thanks for your kind reccollection of herself & children Dick Hickory is at present going to an excellent teacher, is learning fast, is somewhat of a proficient in the Latin grammar, the expences of his schooling inconsiderable.[1]

I have written Andrew congratulating him upon his marriage &c. An union based upon good sense, amiability of character & disinterested affection such as I know his to be, guarantees his future happiness. I trust it may be productive of much solace & happiness to yourself.

We are in the midst of the most northern winter, indeed our climate seems to have changed its character entirely. The sleighs have been running for the last eight or ten days & from present appearances will continue to do so thro' the season.

All classes of our people begin to feel already those calamities attendant on an almost total failure of our cotton crop. There cannot be on an average of more than ¼ of a crop realised, & that of an inferior quality.

Our country has been somewhat agitated with insurrectionary rumors, tho' I think without just grounds Several negroes have been committed to jail & some investigations had, though without arriving at any thing tangible.

In a few days now, your message will reach us which I doubt not will be such as to gratify your frds.& confound your enemies.

My Frances has been a little indisposed tho' now convalescent, our Boy walking & talking &c. Mother & Narcissa desired to be remembered. You will accept the affectionate salutations of Frances & myself & believe me as ever affly.

Sam J. Hays

P.S. Pray thank Maj D. for his polite attentions & remember me to the family generally S. J. H

ALS, DLC (40).

1. Lydia Butler Hays (1788–1852) was the widow of Samuel's brother Stockley D. Hays, who had died September 8. Her children were Sarah Jane Hays (1814–1860) and Richard Jackson Hickory Hays (1822–1899).

To Martin Van Buren

(Private & confidential)

Washington Decbr. 17th. 1831—

My Dr Sir

When I wrote you for the last packett I was surrounded by company & had it not have been that in my previous letter I had promised, I should not have troubled you with that hasty scrall.

Congress have been some days in session, they committees all raised, but they leaders have not as yet unmasked their views, or the course they mean to adopt.

Clay & Calhoun both present. rumor says that these antipodes in politics, have come together on the tariff. If this be so, then we have a clue to their joint opposition of those important matters recommended in the message. Mr. Calhoun has declared to Mr McLane, that nothing will satisfy the south, short of the *posponement* of the payment of the *public debt*, and an immediate reduction of the tariff on *all* imported articles, to fifteen percent ad valorum. If Mr. Clay has come down to this standard, it must be to catch the south, and to aithwart the views of the administration. Virginia will not take the bate if Mr Clay presents it, she is as firm as a rock, and I think Virginia, north carolina, south carolina, Georgia & Alabama, except those members who are Calhouns *mere tools*, will unite in meeting the north upon a ~~fair~~ reduction of the tariff so as to give a fair protection to our own labour, by placing it upon a fair competition with that of Europe—and if Mr Clay unites with Calhoun in his course his political sun is set forever—all his fame built on his american system is lost, & all his friends gained by this bubble, deserts him.

I have no doubt Calhoun and Clay will unite on one scheme, that is if possible to destroy me, and prevent your growing popularity. We have nothing to fear from their intrigues so long as we continue the straight forward uniform course we have adopted, looking alone to the good & prosperity of our beloved country.

The other day the convention at Baltimore nominated, *as instructed*, Mr Henry Clay for President, and John Seargeant for Vice President.[1] I am told that several members of that body have said that it was not with any hope of his success at the next election, but for future use, and to prevent him from sinking into oblivion as a candidate for the Presidency, and prevent his friends from attaching themselves to others as my successor, that is to say, to keep you down, if possible.

Calhoun and Duff Green are both sunk into insignificance, and will be both soon in oblivion. This they foresee, and are become desperate, and are prepared to do any act of desperation that may appear to give the least glimering hope to their wild ambition. I have no doubt but Calhoun would, if he could, induce South Carolina to secede from the union if he was sure he could place himself at the head of that Government. Governor Hamilton, I regret to say, appears equally mad & reckless as Calhoun, and the old adage appear to be realised, "that evil communication corrupt good principles."[2] This appears to be the case with Hamilton, and as a proof of the fact, I refer you to his 4th. of July speech, and his late message to the Legislature of South Carolina. These afford conclusive proof to me, that he is devoid of truth, candeur, honor, or fairness—equally destitute of *all*, as I know Calhoun is, and fills the character given him by Mr Poinsett & others.[3] I pray you to read them. The 4th. of July speech shews, if his relation was strictly true, which it is not, that he has sacrafiсed every principle of honor by exposing in a public speech, what he says, was a private & friendly conversation—this is pursuing the example of his master Calhoun. I sincerely regret how he has fallen, for I thought him, as I once thought Calhoun, a high minded honorable man—but birds of a feather will flock together, and Hamilton has been corrupted by Calhoun.

Letters from Columbia inform that Calhoun remained four days at Columbia on his way hither, & whilst there, I have no doubt, prepared that part of H. message that attacks me. Calhoun came on to Richmond, & tarried there until he arranged Govr. Floyds message, at least that part that assails me—all will not do, the old dominion, Judge P. Barbour says, in a letter to M McLane, remains as firm as a rock, & cannot be shaken, he is in an extasy with my message—so much for domestic, I must draw your attention to our Foreign matters.[4]

I am in great hopes, from your gracious & friendly reception by the King & queen, as detailed in your last, as well as the confidence you have acquired in the ministry, that you will succeed in the proposed arrangements on the subject of impressments of our seamen—if you can, it removes every thing that can interrupt that harmony & good feeling which now exists between the two governments, & which is increasing daily, amonghst our citizens, and will lay a lasting foundation for perpetual peace & harmony between the two countries. Surely great Britain must see that her interest, as well as ours, urge the settlement of this question so important to the peace of both—there is nothing but this that can disturb it, for I have resolved that the north Eastern boundery shall not, because I am sure, that great Britain will agree, if the Senate do not adhere to the award, to settle this matter justly by negotiation, therefore you can urge, that with the present mutual good feelings that exist how unjust England and america would be to both their best interests to permit this subject to remain unsetled, ~~that~~ which might involve them in war,

and which may now be settled by treaty, & when thus settled, will ensure perpetual peace, & harmony between the two nations This would afford me a fine theme with others in my farewell address to the nation—obtain it. Urge this matter with all your tack, & talents, & you will succeed and ~~which~~ if you do it will add another gem to your character for diplomacy, which the people must long cherish with gratitude—closely connected with this subject, is a regulation by treaty on the subject of our fugitive slaves to Canady. I enclose you a letter addressed to me on this subject from a respectable source, that you may feel the British minister on this subject and know whether they will make some arrangement whereby our citizens may reclaim their fugitive slaves from Canady.

I cannot close, although it is now late, without naming to you, confidentially a subject which is constantly on my mind; it is this. If I am reelected, and you are not called to the vice Presidency, I wish you to return to this country in two years from now, if it comports with your views & your wishes. I think your presence here about that time will be necessary. The opposition would if they durst try to reject your nomination as minister, but they dare not, they begin to know if they did, that the people in mass would take you up & elect you vice President without a nomination; was it not for this, it is said Clay, Calhoun & Co would try it.[5]

you know Mr Livingston is anxious to go abroad, and I am as anxious again to have you near me, and it would afford me pleasure to gratify both. I find on many occasions I want your aid & Eatons. I have to labour hard, and constantly watchfull—had I you in the state Department and Eaton in the war, with the others, filled as they are, it would be one of the strongest and happiest administrations that could be formed—we could controle the little Federal leaven, in that high minded honorable & talented friend of ours, Mr McLane—Cass is an amiable talented man, a fine writer, but unfortunately it is hard for him to say no, and he thinks all men honest, this is a virtue in private, but unsafe in public life, for the public interest some times may suffer from having too much confidence. you are aware of the friendship I have for Livingston, and the respects I have for his talents; that he is a polished scholar, an able writer, and a most excellent man, but he knows nothing of mankind—he lacks in this respect, that judgment that you possess, in so eminent a degree—his memory is somewhat failing him, and a change in due time, would be pleasing to him, and with your consent, beneficial to me, if reelected. I would not be surprised, if contrary to your declared wishes, ~~that~~ you should be run for vice-President; as sure as the Senate make the attempt to reject your nomination I am told it will be done. This will bring you back in twelve months. if not, then I wish, if reelected, to bring you back as intimated. I flatter myself in one year you will be able to effect the great & important object of your mission. I shall write you again shortly, my Houshold, *all* join in kind salutations to you, your son, & Mr Vail, & believe me yr friend

Andrew Jackson

P.S. I need not say that this is for your own eye—

[Endorsed by Van Buren:] The President Wishes me to be there in 2 years

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (19-0343).

1. A National Republican convention in Baltimore nominated Henry Clay for president and John Sergeant (1779–1852) of Pennsylvania for vice president on December 13 and 14.

2. 1 Corinthians 15:33.

3. Joel Poinsett, late U.S. minister to Mexico, was a leading South Carolina Unionist.

4. Philip Pendleton Barbour (1783–1841) was a federal district judge in Virginia, appointed by AJ in 1830. On December 12 the *Globe* printed letters reporting that Calhoun had spent four days in Columbia, S.C., in late November plotting to deter a legislative nomination of AJ for reelection. Calhoun reached Richmond on December 3 and left December 5. Governor John Floyd delivered his annual message to the legislature on December 6. He warned of encroaching federal despotism and executive usurpation, assailed the tariff and AJ's proposal to distribute surplus revenue among the states, and endorsed state interposition to arrest "the evils of a system not only unconstitutional, but unjust, oppressive and ruinous" (*Journal of the House of Delegates of the Commonwealth of Virginia* [1831], p. 14).

5. AJ had sent Van Buren's nomination as minister to Britain to the Senate on December 7. On January 25, 1832, the Senate voted 23 to 23 on his confirmation, Clay voting against. Calhoun, as vice president, cast a tie-breaking vote rejecting the nomination.

From Cave Johnson

*[The Chickasaw Indians had ceded West Tennessee to the U.S. in an October 19, 1818, treaty negotiated by Jackson. The treaty reserved a 16-square-mile tract on the Big Sandy River containing a salt lick or springs, to be leased by Chickasaw chiefs Levi Colbert and James Brown for a rent of "a reasonable supply of salt" for the Indians (*Indian Treaties, *2:175). On the day of the treaty's signing, Colbert and Brown leased the reserve to William B. Lewis for 199 years. The salt works proved unproductive, and a supplementary article to the yet-unimplemented 1830 Treaty of Franklin changed the lease's terms to an annual rent to the Chickasaws from Lewis and his associate Robert P. Currin (1789–1857) of four bushels of salt plus a one-time cash payment of $2,000. Cave Johnson (1793–1866) was a Tennessee congressman whose district included the reserve.]*

Washington
Dec 17th. 1831

Dear Sir,

I availed myself yesterday of your permission to examine the Chickasaw treaty. I find in the Schedule annexed to the treaty an Article, which seems intended to confirm the lease of the Reservation of the Salt-works, which was made in the treaty of 1818, and as the interest of that portion of my constituents residing on the Reservation may be materially affected by a

ratification of the Schedule as a part of the Treaty of 1830, it becomes my duty as their Representative & at their urgent solicitation to submit to your consideration the view taken of it by them.

The 4th. Article of the Treaty of 1818 contains the terms upon which the reservation was made.

In pursuance thereof on the 19th. of October 1818 an agreement was made between Brown & Colbert as Trustees of the nation on the one part & Wm. B. Lewis on the other part which stipulated

1st. To lease to Wm. B Lewis the Reservation for 199 years, he paying therefor annually 750 bushels of Salt & further agreeing to sell Salt at the price stipulated in the Treaty.

2ndly. They covenant for quiet enjoyment & peaceble possession during the term

3rdly They covenant not to cede to the United States or sell to any other person during the term.

4th. A condition is made in the Agreement, that in the event Salt-Waters could not be found in sufficient quantity or of proper quality to justify the making of salt, then the Lease to be void.[1]

Shortly after, efforts were made to procure Salt Waters & none could be obtained to justify the establishments contemplated in the Treaty or Lease.

The Citizens then considered the ~~Treaty~~ Lease of Mr Lewis at an end & that the land vested in the United States under the Treaty of 1818 & settled upon it as they did upon the other lands of the United States in the Western District & have remained in the undisturbed possession thereof, protected by the occupant laws of the State of Tennessee, until since the making of the Treaty of 1830

At the time of making of the Treaty of 1830 or shortly then after Robert P. Currin of Franklin Ten. for himself & Majr. Lewis made another agreement with the Indians bearing date the ~~30th~~ first of September 1830 in which it is stipulated, after reciting the former treaty and Lease & the expenditures in the unsuccessful efforts to obtain Salt-Waters, that the Lease be so changed, that the Rent agreed to be paid by the contract of 1818 be *entirely released and discharged* from the date of the Lease together with all claims arising on account of the same & it is further agreed "that said Lease shall remain as heretofore made" with this alteration that two thousand dollars shall be paid to Colbert & Brown—five hundred in Cash, five hundred on the 1st. of October 1831 & One Thousand dollars on the 1st. of October 1832 and that they shall further pay "*four bushels of Salt annually* or the *value thereof*" as may be agreed upon.[2]

These two contracts have been Registered in the county of Humphreys where the a part of the land lies & coppies of them furnished me and which are now before me.[3]

The citizens interested in the disposition to be made of this land, think, that upon the failure to procure salt waters, the Reservation vested in the

United States under the treaty of 1818 & of course was not a proper subject for negotion in 1830—but if mistaken in that position then upon the failure to procure Salt Waters Majr Lewis' Lease was void by the Terms of the contract and the effort to renew the contract & change its stipulations by the Treaty & contract of 1830, is nothing more than a simple contract to purchase the Lease for 199 years for Two thousand dollars & cannot be connected with the Treaty & contract of 1818.

They also think, that the priviledge of purchasing from the Indians, which is prohibited to the Citizens of the U.S. generally by the laws regulating our intercourse with ~~the Indians~~ them, aught not to be extended to Majr. Lewis & Mr. Currin—and it is my opinion that they pay the Indians less than one tenth part of the value of the Ten Thousand two hundred & forty acres contained in the Reservation.

Since the Treaty of 1830 an effort has been made by Mr Currin to induce the occupants to take Leases under him or surrender their improvements, which produced some excitement & alarm amongst them & induced some of them to visit me at my residence to get my advice & assistance to guard & protect them against the claims of Messrs. Currin & Leases—upon my informing them, that the Chickasaw treaty had not been sent to the Senate for ratification & upon my promise to make known their claims & views to the President of the U. States, in whom they have unlimited confidence or to the Senate, they rested perfectly satisfied that justice would be done them[.] I have the honor to be verry respectfully your friend & servant

C Johnson

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr. Johnstons—note upon the Lease to Mr Curren and Lewis, by the chikisaws. If the lease first obtained be a vested right, then the executive has no power to interfere, it belongs to the judiciary to decide on the validity of the lease. Mr J. was sent for and the errour he had fell into as it regarded the forfeiture corrected & explained to him—see the Treaty it is to be forfeited if salt is sold above one dollar for 50 lb. no other forfeighture

ALS, DLC (40; 19-0325). In an 1834 treaty, the Chickasaws agreed to sell the reserve to the U.S. for $1.25 per acre.

1. These were the terms of Lewis's 1818 lease (*HRRep* 488, 22d Cong., 1st sess., pp. 33–35, Serial 228). The treaty set a maximum price of one dollar per fifty-pound bushel for salt from the reserve.

2. This was the September 1, 1830, supplementary article to the Treaty of Franklin (*Indian Treaties*, 2:1039–40).

3. The agreement pursuant to the supplemental treaty article was certified in Williamson County court on November 6, 1830, and registered in Humphreys County on June 23, 1831 (*HRRep* 488, 22d Cong., 1st sess., pp. 44–45, Serial 228).

To Latham Burrows Avery

Washington Dec 19 1831

Midshipman Avery

In my official capacity as President of the United States, I now address you, upon your entering into public service, and shall explain to you the duties assigned to those who fulfill the stations of Midshipmen. You are to hold yourself in readiness to be sent to sea at a moments warning, by an order from the Secretary of Navy, you are also to prepare yourself to pass a severe examination in the different branches of Mathematics, Viz.— Geome[try,] Algebra, and all treatises on Navigation. On th*[ese]* studies for several years past you have no doubt bestowed unremitted attention. You must possess an intimate knowledge of Charts, and the situation of all the principal Countries visited by the Government vessels. You must likewise have a correct knowledge of the three branches of science— Astronomy, Geography and History. With the former of which, you must be perfectly acquainted. The studies I have referred to are but a secondary consideration in comparison with the duties incumbent on entering into active service. The most indefatigable industry—unremitted exertions— perfect obedience and sound moral principals, are the indispensible requisites to enable you to obtain promotion. Suffice it to say that the most rigid self discipline is absolutely necessary to enable you to maintain an honorable standing, and the least infraction of rules or inattention to duty will lead to a dismission. I need not remark on the importance of your being well prepared to pass your entering examination; you was no doubt aware of the fact and arranged your studies accordingly. A failure in that point would prevent your being accepted. My motives for addressing you at the length, and in the familiar manner I have, arose from the respect I had conceived for Mr Barber, the Gent. to whom you are indebted for your present honor.[1] From his favourable description I am led to anticipate the advantage which will ultimately accrue to the Navy by viewing as its future conductors young men possessed of your moral habits and literary attainments. Wishing you success in your present undertaking I remain your sincere friend

Andrew Jackson
President of the U. States

Copy, AMobM (19-0351). Avery (1817–1856) received a midshipman's warrant this same day. He was commissioned a lieutenant in 1841 and remained on the Navy rolls until 1855.

1. Congressman Noyes Barber (1781–1844), was, like Avery, a native of Groton, Connecticut. He wrote Woodbury on December 20 to thank him for Avery's appointment and again on January 13, 1832, enclosing a reply from Avery to AJ (DNA-RG 45, M124-130 & M124-131).

To Martin Van Buren

Washington Decbr. 19th. 1831—

My Dr Sir

I open my letter of the 17th. to say to you that I have received yours of the 11th of October and that of the 14th. These have reached me in good time, as the subject of the North East boundery has been laid before the Senate, but as yet, no indication of what course it will adopt, upon the subject

I have sent for Mr Livingston, will confidentially, consult with him upon the subject it embraces, and wield it to the best advantage to produce favorable action in the Senate.

I am much pleased, nay gratified, at the good feeling in this matter displayed by the minister, and you may assure him, that it will be met by me, with equal good feelings, on my part. Surely with such good feelings on both sides, this, as well as the impressment of our seamen can be *now* amicably adjusted—the latter, by negotiation, which I hope you will commence, and urge with your usual judgt. which must, as I confidently believe, succeed.

I have on reflection concluded, to say nothing to any one (except Mr Livingston) upon the subject of your letter of the 14th. until I can learn, what course the Senate may adopt. If it advises to adhere to, & carry the award into effect, then, the subject will be closed, if it should advise the setting aside the award, and open an negotiation then, it can be used confidentially & favorably.

The documents relating to the French Treaty are prepared, and ready to be sent to the Senate if required, & if not called for, I shall endeavour to have them laid before the Senate by a call thro a friend.[1] your remarks upon the subject are correct—the instructions and desptaches will shew in strong terms, that the situation of our claims, and the negotiation on the subject, by the former administration, were at an end. France, saying, unless you take up our claims under the Louisiana Treaty, we will not negotiate, our Government replies, we *will not permit these claims to enter into the discussion* &c &c—and the negotiation, was thus, entirely closed. How it was opened, ~~again,~~ the instructions, & despatches clearly shew.

Intending to write you again shortly, I will now close. Miss Easton has promised to write you soon & Mrs. Donelson says she will endeavour to make the young Lady of which you speak worthy of your son. My Houshold, in which Earle & Lewis are included join in the kindest wishes for your health, prosperity & happiness, to which my own is united[.] yr friend

Andrew Jackson

P.S. Eatons appeal has silenced his persecutors—it has prostrated the whole of them.

ALS, DLC-Van Buren Papers (19-0365).

1. On Henry Clay's motion, the Senate requested the State Department correspondence on the French treaty on January 3, 1832. AJ communicated it on January 18. On January 27 the Senate voted to ratify the treaty by 41 to 0.

From John Randolph

My dear Sir,

I am confined to my apartment living on asses milk & Sarsaparilla with small hopes of ever leaving it except feet foremost.

I have been trying to write to you. A letter from Hamilton of So. Carolina charges you with osillating on the great and vital question of the Bank of the U S. I repelled the charge with indignation. But the report thickens from all quarters. I get it from Richmond thro' our friend Mr. Tho. Miller of Powhattan, as the common talk and belief there.[1] I receive it this instant in a letter from one of the most virtuous and discreet of men a member of the Virginia delegation in Congress. It is even said to be squinted at in your message which I have not read & I have no body to read it to me—being like Darius,

> "Deserted in my utmost need
> By those my former bounty fed"[2]

I am literally alone, eating and sleeping in the same room which I never quit, keeping up fires day and night, & the room never under 45–50 of Frahenheit at day break, or I suffocate.

In my speeches to the people I have bottomed my support of you upon our identity of opinion on the Bank question. I said that in comparison with this, the Tariff, the Internal improvement and surplus distribution questions, in which I differed from you, were merged & that I verily believed that if you had not with fearless integrity come out and stirred that nest of hornets you would not have lost a vote more than you had at the last election.

I added "that this made up for all our differences on political subjects, *for that if you were a friend to the chesnut street monster as you were its bitter enemy, it would be impossible for me ever to support you*, cordially.

I therefore stand committed—but I am a thing of nothing—not so your fame, which is part of the property (& the most precious part) of our country. I cannot and will not believe it possible that you can waver upon this subject until proof not to be resisted is brought to my senses. But I deem it my duty to tell you as a friend that you are surrounded with evil counsellors. I say evil because one is ultra Federal, ultra Tariff, ultra Bank, as an old sedition law federalist might be expected to be. Another to say nothing of other matters, is a republican convert to the Tariff, Internal

improvement and Bank questions: of itself enough to damn him politically with all *real* republicans.[3] I am not blaming the first of these Gentlemen for his principles, he is right to follow his vocation. But if (which may God in his mercy avert) he or any body else shall cause you to hesitate even, on this question there is an end of your reputation The laurels of the 27th. Decr. and the 8th. of January will have been blighted, your real friends will hang their heads and blush—they will indeed *vote* for you—at least I will against Clay and the grand *Nullifier* and Webster & John Adams (the best of the set)—but the vote will be extorted from them.[4] I shall be delivered of mine with *forceps*. This is plain language, but it is that of a friend ready to pour out his blood for you: of one who wants nothing, but who is turning all his property into money as fast as he can, that he may escape next year, if he shall survive from a climate worse even than that of Russia—a climate where we have a Greenland winter & an African summer in latitude 37° north the latitude of Algiers! Mr. Taney & Mr. Woodbury I have confidence in. Mr. Cass I have not the pleasure to know; but all your real Virginia friends agree that the present cabinet is more objectionable than the last. Then we had the head of it with us as far as a New Yorker dared to go—now—but I drop my pen.

[Headed by AJ Donelson:] Copy of 1st. sheet of John Randolphs letter to the President headed *strictly confidential* dated Decbr 19th 1831 Roanoke

Copy in AJ Donelson's hand, DLC (40). AJ replied on December 22 (below).

1. Thomas Miller (1779–1845) represented Powhatan County in the Virginia House of Delegates.

2. From John Dryden's "Alexander's Feast."

3. The two were Louis McLane, a former Federalist, and Edward Livingston.

4. AJ had fought a preliminary engagement with the British at New Orleans on December 23, 1814.

To Edward Livingston

Decbr. 21rst. 1831—

The President with his respects to the Secretary of state, refers the within resolution to him, to be complied with, by furnishing the President with copies of the correspondence refered to in the Resolutions. It was improperly sent to the Department of War by my secretary. The commissioner of the Genl Land office can give you the name of the Survayor & commissioner appointed for this duty.

AN, DNA-RG 59 (M179-71). A dispute between Georgia and the federal government over the location of the head of St. Marys River had for several years blocked efforts to survey the boundary between Georgia and Florida Territory. On December 19, the House of Representatives requested copies of the government's correspondence with the governor

of Georgia in 1830 and 1831 over the contested boundary. Earlier this day Lewis Cass had reported finding no correspondence in the War Department. On December 28 Livingston submitted a report enclosing a March 22, 1831, letter from Georgia governor George R. Gilmer to AJ. In it, Gilmer informed AJ that as Congress had failed to authorize commissioners to mark the boundary according to Georgia's claim, Georgia would do it alone. Livingston reported "an indistinct recollection" in the State Department that Gilmer's letter had been answered, but that no copy could be found. On December 29 AJ transmitted Livingston's report to the House with a recommendation to address the issue (*HRDoc* 43, 22d Cong., 1st sess., Serial 217). The boundary was finally resolved between the two states in 1866 and confirmed by the U.S. in 1872.

To John Randolph

Washington Decbr. 2~~1~~2rst. 1831

Dr. Sir,

I have just recd. your letter of the 19th. instant which I have read with much pleasure as a candid and frank expression of your opinions not the less valued because they differ from mine in some respects ~~and particularly~~ in the estimate which they place on a portion of my cabinet, and of the views which they as well as myself entertain of some public questions

You have done me no more than justice when you repelled with indignation the declaration that I had changed my views of the Bank of the United States. Nothing more foreign to truth could have been said. As at present organized I have uniformly on all proper occasions held the same language in regard to that institution, and that is that it has failed to answer the ends for which it was created, and besides being unconstitutional, in which point of view, no measure of utility could ever procure for it my official sanction, it is on the score of mere expediency dangerous to liberty, and therefore, worthy of the denunciation which it has received from the disciples of the old republican school.

Mr. McLane has on his own authority, in conformity with his sense of a positive duty which he did not feel at liberty to disregard and which it would have been unbecoming in me to controul, ventured the expression that the institution might be so modified as to strip it of the constitutional objections entertained by the Executive. In saying this it was far from his intention or wish to be understood as committing me in any manner to the friends of the Bank in the support of any scheme for obtaining a new charter. He saw that there were arrangements that might be favorably accommodated with the aid of a Bank provided it could be so modified or constructed as to obviate constitutional objections; and he felt it his duty to base his financial arrangements upon this hypothesis.

But in doing this he has spoken for himself & has not committed me: and I feel confident that he is the last man who would desire to commit me on such a subject.

P.S. agreable to your permission I have copied the first sheet of your letter and enclose you the original.

[Endorsed by AJ Donelson:] Copy of the Presidents letter to Mr. Randolph dated 22d. Decr. 1831

Draft by AJ Donelson, DLC (40). The postscript is in AJ's hand. A rougher partial text by Donelson, corrected by McLane, concludes: "Rest assured, Sir, that Mr. McLane is a man of too much honor to ~~play the~~ play any game with me ~~calculated~~ that may possibly make him a winner at the expense of the principles which are the rule of my administration."

From Anthony Butler

Mexico 23. December 1831.

Dear Sir,

By the hands of our Messenger Mr. Jamieson a Gentleman of Kentucky you will receive the Treaty of Amity, Commerce and Navigation which has at last been finally concluded with this Government, and its ratification advised by the Mexican Congress, with certain modifications an explanation in regard to which is given in my despatch to the Department of State that accompanies the Treaty. I am in hopes that even with the mutilation it has suffered you will find it satisfactory, and see that all the important interests between the two Governments are amply provided for. As it regards the article respecting fugitive slaves, we perceive that its rejection does no more than annul the provision made by Treaty for adjusting such questions in an amicable way as often as they might arise—but the rejection impairs no right, nor will it interpose any restraint in the employment of all such means as may become necessary for enforcing these rights should the evil resulting from the loss of slaves by our Citizens by their seeking refuge in the Mexican Territory ever grow into such magnitude as to require the interposition of the Government.[1]

I have no language to describe the vexations, mortification and perplexity I have suffered from the ignorance, vacillating conduct and illiberal prejudices displayed by the present Mexican Congress before whom this subject has for more than nine months been pending; and I am not sure that it would have been concluded in twelve months to come, but for the decisive stand I made and which was communicated to the Secretary for foreign Affairs in a *private Note* of which a copy is enclosed for your information.[2] My determination as conveyed through the medium of this note, was no doubt made known to Congress by the Secretary as I designed it should be, and I cannot doubt but that the hasty decision given by Congress on the very last day of their session was effected by the Tenor of my note. In this proceeding I assumed a position on my own responsibility that I flatter myself you will approve—and let me request

of you to tell me under your own hand whether you do or do not. In fact My dear Sir, such a spirit of opposition has been displayed on the part of the Mexican Congress levelled either against the actual Administration with a view to embarrass them and drive them from Office, or founded in continued prejudices against ourselves (and whether the one or the other we were made the victims) that in sober truth it seemed to me better to put an end at once to all amicable intercourse between the two Governments than longer suffer the indignity of having every advance made on our part towards cultivating harmony and friendly intercourse rejected or trifled with. I had besides a very clear impression that the Congress would not hazard such a contingency as my departure from Mexico would probably give rise to, and hence the ground was taken with the more confidence, as to the effect it would produce. I have not been deceived; the effect was instantaneous and decisive, and notwithstanding the occurrence took place but one day previous to the close of the session, Congress next morning held a conclave meeting, and settled the difficulty which it was pretended had embarrassed and detained them for three months, in such haste as to have omitted certain formalities, not discovered, untill after the adjournment and which will be supplied on the first day of the regular meeting which commences a week hence that is on the 1st. January 1832.[3]

The Messenger on the part of the Mexican Government (Colonel Cañedo) who is bearer of the ratified copy of the Treaty to be exchanged against ours, will leave this city in a few days, and arrive at Washington by the time the Senate of the U. States have concluded their deliberations on the subject. he would have accompanied Mr. Jamieson, but some of the Gilding and ornamental parts of the binding of the Copy intended for us was not entirely finished when our Messenger was compelled to depart or to miss the packet—so that we may reasonably hope for the finishing of the last Act of this drama in February next

Being now at leisure to turn my attention to another subject I hope to be able very shortly to communicate something on the subject of T____. I remain very Respectfully Dear Sir your most obedt. se[vt.].

A. Butler

ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M97-6). *HRDoc* 351, 25th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 410–11 (Serial 332). Butler wrote again on December 26 (below), and AJ replied to both letters on February 25, 1832. AJ submitted the treaty to the Senate on February 24, 1832, and the Senate voted to ratify it by 41 to 0 on March 23.

1. Kentucky native Green Berry Jameson (1805–1836) was a lawyer in San Felipe, Texas. Butler wrote Livingston on December 24 explaining two protocols attached to the treaty after its signing on April 5 (*HRDoc* 351, 25th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 412–14, Serial 332). The first, added September 17, clarified that the guarantee in Article 3 of full trading privileges to citizens of each country within the other did not exempt them from general commercial regulations on foreigners. The second, added December 17, deleted Article 34 concerning the rendition of fugitive slaves.

2. Butler had written Lucas Alamán on December 14, protesting the Mexican Congress's unfathomable delay in acting on the treaty and threatening to terminate his mission and return home (*HRDoc* 351, 25th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 411–12, Serial 332).

3. Mexico completed its formal ratification of the treaty on January 14, 1832.

From Thomas Rothmaler Mitchell

Washington Dec 23. 1831

Sir,

I beg leave to call your serious attention to the situation of Georgetown with regard to the danger to which it is exposed from an insurrection of the slaves. There are not more than 90 adult males in the town—& of these no more than 60 who would be efficient. The Country around is very thinly settled—the people living at a distance from each—while on every side of the town there are, within 4 miles of it, large plantations, contiguous to each other, from 1500 to 2000 negro men living in villages almost within hale of each other. In case of insurrection the whites must fall victims to them. I was witness to an alarm of insurrection about two years & had the weakness & defenselessness of the inhabitants presented to me in a very strong light. If the Government could station there a small detachment of troops, it would keep the negroes in awe—inspire the whites with a determination to resist until they could obtain assistance from the interior country and quiet the apprehensions of the people. It would show on the part of the Government a parental regard which would attach the people to it—& have in a political view the happiest effect. At present there is nothing in that country to remind the people of the protection of the general Government or of their ~~attachment~~ allegiance to it—no army—no navy—no public works—& in attacks of this kind which fill them with the most dreadful apprehensions—they look to themselves or to the State Government for their defense. I think such an act on the part of this Government would have the happiest effect in soothing the people & making them feel their dependance upon it. Your early attention to this would much oblige me. I have the Honor to be with the greatest respect your Obt Sert—

Th: R. Mitchell

[Endorsed by AJ:] Dept. of war—refered A. J.

ALS, DNA-RG 108 (19-0404). Mitchell (1783–1837) was a congressman from Georgetown, South Carolina. Army commander Alexander Macomb replied to him on December 27 "that the dispersed state of the Army, and its limited extent in numbers" precluded stationing troops in Georgetown, but that "a competent force" would be sent from the Charleston garrison some sixty miles away "in case of any serious alarm" of slave insurrection (DNA-RG 108, M857-1).

From Anthony Butler

Mexico 26. Decr. 1831

Dear Sir,

You will perceive along with the Treaty of Commerce & Navigation an additional article to the Treaty of limits and boundary, by which it is provided that the Ratifications of both Treaties may be exchanged at the same time. This affair of the treaty of boundary was so strongly urged on me in 1830 when the other Treaty was on hand, and the Jealousy against us and the suspicions that we had designs against Texas were so strong, that I deemed it best to gratify them with the additional article, knowing that it would avail nothing, and a refusal to unite in it would have had serious effects on our other relations.

I cannot believe that you will permit the Old Treaty of limits to go to the Senate, for if you do, I am convinced that it will have the very worst effects on our future Negotiations for T. and as the day for exchange of Ratifications is set for the 5th. April you can by delay in sending the Treaty to the Senate or by their laying it on the Table for a short time permit the day to pass over as ~~they~~ the Mexican Government have served us on two occasions, and were very nearly doing the same thing for the third time.[1] I pray you adopt some mode of giving that question the go by, so that I may have a fair field in Negotiating the other ~~question~~ Treaty, which if I succeed in as I hope I shall, it will enable me to retire in peace having performed my full share of duty to my Country.

I think the Senate might themselves be induced to reject the Treaty of boundary—or perhaps the great length of time that has elapsed since it was concluded may of itself furnish a reason for requiring negotiation anew. I am not diplomatist enough to solve the question, but I hope that by one means or another you will contrive to keep the question open.

I shall write you more at large by the Messenger of the Mexican Government, than I can do at present, for my health is not good and it is now nearly 2 o'Clock in the morning such is the labor I am compelled to perform having no Clerk nor assistance of any sort. With the best Wishes for your health, happiness and prosperity I remain Dear Sir very Respectfully and truly your most Obdt. Sevt.

A. Butler

P.S. Some of my Correspondence with the Secretary of State for foreign affairs shall be sent by the next Messenger—I am unable to copy a line more at present.

[Endorsed by AJ:] Col A. Butler.

ALS, Sotheby's (mAJs). A treaty confirming and defining the existing boundary between the U.S. and Mexico (leaving Texas with Mexico) had been concluded by U.S. minister

Joel Poinsett in January 1828, but Mexico had failed to ratify it within its stipulated four-month deadline. On April 5, 1831, the date they concluded the commercial treaty, Butler and Alamán signed a supplementary article to the boundary treaty extending the time for exchanging ratifications to April 5, 1832. AJ submitted both treaties to the Senate on February 24, 1832. The Senate voted to ratify the boundary treaty on April 4 by 42 to 0. Ratifications of both treaties were exchanged at Washington on April 5, their deadline date.

1. Besides the boundary treaty, Mexico had failed to ratify commercial treaties negotiated in 1826 and 1828.

From William Carroll

[This letter is available only in typescript.]

Nashville, Decr. 26 1831.

My dear Sir,

I have read all the reports from the Departments. That of the Secretary of the Treasury is an able document and highly interesting to the country. The one from the Department of War is written with great elegance and shews that the author is thoroughly acquainted with the duties committed to his charge. I am equally as well pleased with the report of the Secretary of the Navy. It is a plain practicable business paper which can be easily understood by almost every man in the community.

We expect to hear from the Baltimore convention in a very few days what has been done. So many interests were to be represented there, that I think it entirely probable no selection will be made unanimously and of course that you will, as I have said before for the last twelve months, be without opposition at the election. Indeed I cannot now see what the opposition can take hold of. The country is prosperous, and happy, and difficulties with foreign nations, which have long existed, have been favorably and amicably settled, what good then it may fairly be asked by every one who loves repose, can result from a change in the Administration?

I am dr Sir Sincerely your friend

Wm Carroll

Typed copy, DLC (73).

From Louis McLane

Monday Morning Dec. 27.th.[1]

Dear Sir

I find myself still too much of an invalid to leave my room, tho' will proper care today I have every hope of being able to wait on you—tomorrow.

Mean time I hope you will allow me to ask that the appointment of District Attorney in Phila. may be postponed until I can have an

opportunity of seeing you with Mr. Livingston. Mr. Dallas expressed a very decided opinion unfavorable to Mr. Kitera, and as decidedly in favor of Mr. Gilpin—[2]

I have been altogether disappointed in the examination of the case of the Jewels. I put off, in consequence of the pressure of my official business, for Sunday & being overtaken with illness I have not yet looked at it.

In conclusion I beg to express the solicitude I feel respecting the Senates resolution as to appointments & to ask that you will not *act* unless there should be an urgent necessity for it until you can have the benefit of explaining your views & feelings to your whole Cabinet. It is a case in which you ought to be unanimously sustained, and I cannot but hope that the resolution may be rescinded without a direct issue with our *friends*.[3]

By such a course we may at all events separate the most valuable of them from the snare into which they have been drawn. I am, dear Sir, with sentiments of the best regard faithfully Yr Servt.

L. M'Lane

[Endorsed by AJ:] Mr. L. M.Lane—private—District atty. E. Penn'a—Mr. Dallas, objects to Mr. K. prefers Mr Gilpin—to be kept on confidential files—A. J.

ALS, DLC (41; 19-0422).

1. Monday was December 26.

2. George M. Dallas had resigned as U.S. district attorney to take a seat in the Senate. Thomas Kittera (1789–1839) was a former congressman. AJ appointed Henry Dilworth Gilpin (1801–1860) to succeed Dallas on December 30.

3. AJ had prepared, or was preparing, a message to the Senate protesting its rejection on December 22 of Samuel Gwin for register of the Mount Salus, Miss., land office (below).

From James Watson Webb

New York Thursday
December 29th. 1831.

General.

Believing it highly important that at our Frontier Posts, ~~it is of~~ there should be a perfect understanding & great harmony between the Civil & Military authorities, and knowing the hostility which Judge *Doty* has ever evinced towards our little Army—I take the liberty of enclosing you the within statement from Colonel Twiggs. In doing so, I will merely add that the most violent of your political opponents unite in the opinion, that you should never shew mercy to the unprincipled slanderers of the memmory of your sainted wife. Sincerely your frnd & Obedt Servt

Jas. Watson Webb.

ALS, DLC (40; 19-0455). Webb (1802–1884) was editor of the *Morning Courier and New-York Enquirer*.

[Enclosure: Statement of David Emanuel Twiggs]

New York
26 Decr 1831

Judge Doty of Michigan soon after the news of the election of Genl Jackson & the Death of Mrs Jackson was received at Green Bay (MT. said "It is fortunate that she (Mrs Jackson) is dead" & gave as a reason that he (Doty) did not know what "disposition could be made at Washington of *such a woman*," & made other remarks reflecting on the character of Mrs Jackson, *This was in the undersigned (Col Twiggs') presence*. He further said in the presence of Mr R Irwin Post Master Green Bay, that "*Genl Jackson was an old fool & was led by the nose by the greatest intriguer & rascal in the U.S. & that was Mr Van Buren*" (or words to the above import,) this was after the election, his conduct relative to the land claims in Michigan must be known at Washington, his interference in all local elections are matters of notoriety to all the citizens of his vicinity, his hostility to the army is known to all those who has been stationed in the territory near his residence & his unjustifiable attempt to injure a very worthy man & drive him from office (The Post Master R Irwin Esqr) I consider not among the least of this *Davils'* offences

D. E. Twiggs

[Endorsed by AJ:] To be examined A. J. Mr. Webb, enclosing the statement of Col Twiggs of the U. States army of the speeches & doings of judge Dottys—such a man I cannot appoint as a judge—A. J to be kept on the Executive files A. J

ADS, DLC (40 & 59; 19-0456). Twiggs (1790–1862), an Army lieutenant colonel, had commanded at Fort Winnebago in Michigan Territory from 1828 to 1831. James Duane Doty (1799–1865) was a federal judge for Michigan Territory and later Wisconsin territorial governor and congressman. He had been accused in 1830 of having an improper interest in claims on Indian land (*Jackson Papers*, 8:526–27). In January 1832 AJ nominated David Irwin of Virginia to replace him as judge. Robert Irwin Jr. (1797–1833) was postmaster at Green Bay.

To Lewis Cass

Private

The Indian question—

The case of Johnston & McIntosh (8 Wheaton) has settled, that the north american Indian tribes, east of the Mississippi are a conquered & dependant people—that their hunting grounds were subject to be granted

and that the Indian tribes had no right to grant to Individuals.[1] Then they are dependent; not on the Federal power in exclusion to the State authority, when they reside within the limits of a State, but to the sovereign power of the State within whose sovereign limits they reside. No feature in the Federal constitution is more prominant, than that the general powers confered on congress, can only be enforced, & executed upon the people of the union. This is a government of the people. 1rst The House of Representatives are their immediate representative or agent. 2nd the senate is their agent elected by their agents in the sovereign State assemblies. 3rd. The President is their agent elected by their immediate agents they electors. ?Who does these represent? the people of the *Union*. as law makers over whom does their jurisdiction extend? over *the people of the Union*. Who are the people of the Union? all those subject to the jurisdiction of the sovereign States—none else. and it is an idle feeling that can advocate any other doctrine—or a total ignorance of the real principles upon which our federal union is based—an absolute independence of the Indian tribes from State authority can never bear an intelligent investigation—and a quasi independence of State authority when located within its Territorial limits is *absurd*

If the Indians were not subjects of the States within whose Territorial limits they were, what right had the Genl Government to accept cessions of Territory that the States had no right to. ¿What right had Virginia nor Carolina &c, to pay part of the claims which was incurred in the revolution struggle by grants of land within her territorial limits & in the actual ocupancy of the Indians & afterwards cede the same country to the United States; If the Indians were an independent people, then, these grants are void, & the titles granted in Kent'y Tennessee & parts of ohio are void—such a doctrine would not be well relished in the west, by those who suffered & bled so freely by being the first pioneers to enjoy the land so dearly bought by their privations in the revolutionary struggle.

I have rose from my couch to give you these crude & undigested thoughts, that if you see Mr Bell ~~that~~ you may give him the ideas, tho crude, he can digest them.[2] We have acted upon these principles, they are *sound*, and are such, upon which our *confederated union rests*. I cannot abandon them. I will thank you to preserve this and return it to me—it may be of use hereafter to guard my consistancy[.] very respectfully yours

Andrew Jackson

[Endorsed by AJ:] on the subject of the State sovereignity over the Indians within their chartered limits A. J.

ALS, DLC (40).

1. In the 1823 case of *Johnson v. McIntosh*, the Supreme Court held that European governments and their American sovereign successors held "ultimate dominion" over Indian lands by right of discovery and conquest. This included the power to grant title to Indian

lands and "the sole right of acquiring the soil from the natives," who themselves held only a "right of occupancy" (21 U.S. Reports 573–74). Henry Wheaton (1785–1848) had reported twelve volumes of Supreme Court decisions from 1816 to 1827.

2. John Bell of Tennessee was again chairman of the House Committee on Indian Affairs in the first session of the Twenty-second Congress.

To the United States Senate (not sent)

[Stockley Donelson Hays, nominated and confirmed in February 1831 as register of the Mount Salus or Clinton, Miss., land office, died on September 8. On October 3 Jackson gave Samuel Gwin (c1794–1838) of Tennessee, son of James Gwin, a recess appointment to succeed him. Jackson nominated Gwin to the Senate on December 8, and the Senate rejected him on December 22 by 25 to 13. This message was probably composed shortly thereafter. It was not delivered. Jackson instead renominated Gwin on June 11, 1832. The Senate tabled the renomination by 27 to 17 on July 10. The adjournment of Congress on July 16 terminated Gwin's recess appointment, and on July 21 Jackson issued him a new one. He was again nominated and rejected in 1833.]

To the Senate of the United States.

The journals of the senate of the 22nd. of Decbr 1831. Having informed the President of the U. States that the nomination of Samuel Gwinn as register of the Land office at Mount Salus, vice Stockly D. Hays deceased has been rejected by the Senate. The resolutions presented by Mr Poindexter to the Senate on the ____ day of 1831 and the resolution offered by Mr Poindexter and passed on the third day of February 1831, plainly shew that the senate in their rejection have acted upon said resolution & rejected Mr Gwin, because he did not reside within the State of Mississippi to an office which belongs to the U. States.[1] The President cannot infer any ~~thing~~ other cause than what the tenor of these resolutions indicate, because he knows Mr Gwinn, fit capable, honest, and having claims on the Government for important services in the Late war, and also, on the state of Mississippi, for his prompt movement (tho lame) as one of the volunteers, who braved the privations of hunger to protect that state from the formidable invasion of the Indians when Ft Mimms was destroyed, & many of her citizens butchered by the ruthless hands of the invading savage.[2] Therefore the President ~~conclude~~ is compelled to draw the inference that the resolutions as amended, and passed on the 3rd. of February 1831 speaks the cause of his rejection because he was not a resident Citizen of the State of Mississippi at the time of his appointment. Believing This to be the cause, the President cannot but see in the offered resolutions, by Mr Poindexter ~~& the~~ as amended and passed ~~resolution~~, a direct attempt in 22 members of the Senate (a minority of its whole number) to alter the constitution of the United States, by

controling his constitutional power of appointing from the great body of the people, such persons as he thinks fit, as declared in the 2nd article & 2nd section of said art. of the Federal constitution.[3] This being the view that ~~I am~~ he is compelled to take ~~of~~ he cannot but believe this a usurped power of the Senate there is no alternative left the Executive but to resist this ~~open~~ naked encrochment on his appointing power & violation of his constitutional ~~power~~ rights—submission to it would be a dereliction of duty, as well as trechery to his constituents, who has ~~entrusted him with their~~ made him the guardian of the constitution, and on entering on his office, he has taken a solem oath to preserve & support. ?What is the languge of this resolution & those offered by Mr Poindexter upon which it is based (here insert them) What is the language of the constitution (here insert it) Is not here a direct attempt made by a minority of the Senate to amend the constitution, by a resolution in a secrete sitting ~~and~~ to coerce the President to their views & to limit his choice within such Districts as they think proper to prescribe ~~to him, or the Senate~~ Thus assuming the right to reject because regardless of ~~his~~ fitness, ~~his~~ honesty & capacity ~~negative his nomination~~ he is not a citizen living within their prescribed limits—admit the power, & they may limit it to a state, to a county, a village & even to a certain sect of christians, to the exclusion of others if the power exists it is without limit to be found within their prescription. Mr Poindexter cannot deny that this was the object of his resolution & the Executive is obliged as such to view it an act of usurpation, an attempt of a minority of the Senate to alter the constitution & a positive violation of that sacred instrument. ¿Was there any necessity for this assumption of power & encroachment on the constitutional powers of the Executive. ¿had the Executive in any instance nominated a single individual for office within the State of Mississippi, but one, and that one was Col Stockly D. Hays before the passage of the resolution & that after an interview with Judge Ellis Mr Poindexter & Genl Hinds, being the whole representation ~~of~~ from that State & Mr Poindexters *seeming* acquiescence to the proposed nomination in the presence of Judge Grundy I say *seeming* from his subsequent course and never was theer any hint of opposition to the proposed nomination of Col Hays by Mr Poindexter until after his nomination went to the Senate—then it was, that Mr. P. (as appears from the record) offered the before recited resolutions, ~~with a view as it must be supposed to alarm the President & to make him withdraw the nomination. The Executive was applied to withdraw it. His answer was the Col had been urged for this appointment by the Govr. and judges of the State of Tennessee the members of~~ with a view as must be infered to encroach upon the positive constitutional rights of the Executive, as the Executive had never made a nomination of any citizen out of the State ~~in which the office was located but the abo mentioned unless in particular cases, and for meritorious services, and but the one in the state of Mississippi~~ of Missippi before. Therefore, the resolution could not be as a hint to the

President to continue to do in discharge of his constitutional duties what he had been in the habit of performing before.

On the death of Col Hays, a case occurred, which the Executive viewed as one proper by which to test, whether the Senate had, by the adoption of the aforesaid resolution intended to controle the Executive in the free exercise of ~~his~~ the constitutional ~~dutys—the~~ discharge of the appointing power by which he was invested or to gratify the caprice of Mr Poindexter. To test this Mr Samuel Gwinn was selected for this appointment. He had claims for his meritorious services in the late war, he had claims upon the State of Mississippi, as one of the brave & patriotic volunteers, tho lame, who flew to the relief of Missippi, when threatened by havock & devastation by an overwhelming Indian Force who had destroyed Ft Mimms, & threatened to overrun the whole State, and continued to the end of the war, and who bravely fought at the lines on the 8th. of Janry fourteen, whilst others who are now trying to undermine the constitution ~~was by resolutions was~~ were safely shielded by betaking themselves to the Hospital This is the character & services of the man rejected under the resolution ~~of~~ offered by Mr Poindexter & adopted by ~~the~~ a minority of the Senate to alter the constitution, & curtail the appointing power of the ~~Senate~~ Executive

From the view the President is compelled to take of these resolutions, from the history of the case, he is compeled ~~the Executive~~ to withold from nominating any individual resident citizens of Mississippi to fill this appointment so long as the resolution offered by Mr Poindexter, & passed by a minority of the senate remains unrescinded on their journal as by the act ~~I~~ he would be acquesing in what he believes, an act of usurpation & violation of the constitution. The President regrets that the resolution, ~~prevents him from~~ offered by Mr Poindexter compels him ~~thus to repel the~~ from a sense of duty to adopt this course, as it is both contrary to his feelings as well as his wishes to withold from ~~the~~ nomination to any office within that state a citizen of Mississippi, who may be presented who is fit & capable. But to this office the President is compelled to declare, so long as said resolution remains unrecinded on the journals of the Senate, ~~the President will not~~ he cannot consistant with his view of his imperious duty nominate a citizen of said State to fill it. Therefore that the duties may be faithfully discharged, The President nominates ____ of Alabama who he vouches to be honest fit capable & whose claims upon his country ~~entitle him~~ for meritorious servics in the days of trial and of battle, in the late Indian & British war.

This nomination is made, that the discussion upon it may be with open doors, that the constitutional power of the Senate & that of the Executive as to the appointing power may be fairly & openly discussed & the opinions of each member may be fully known to the nation and not with closed doors, where attacks can be made, doctrines advanced & unfounded charges by some members, ~~of~~ made against the Executive

in secrete—truth shuns not the open day, and constitutional questions, where the power of the Senate & executive are discussed ought to be in open day & not with closed doors.[4]

AD draft, DLC (73).

1. AJ had originally nominated Hays for surveyor of public lands south of Tennessee on December 20, 1830. On December 23, Poindexter moved to refer the nomination to a select committee with instructions to inquire whether Hays was a resident of Mississippi. Poindexter modified his motion on January 12, 1831, redirecting the nomination to the Public Lands Committee and omitting the inquiry about residence. The committee reported concerning Hays's qualifications on January 31, and on February 3 the Senate adopted, by 22 to 10, Poindexter's resolution "that it is inexpedient to appoint a citizen of any one State to an office which may be created or become vacant in any other State of the Union within which such citizen does not reside, without some evident necessity for such appointment" (*Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:135–36, 145, 147, 150–51).

2. Red Stick Creeks had attacked and captured Fort Mims in Mississippi Territory (now Alabama) on August 30, 1813, killing at least 250 soldiers and settlers.

3. The president "shall nominate, and by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, shall appoint" government officers.

4. Senate executive sessions were nominally secret, and debates were unrecorded.

Memorandum on the Cabinet and the Eaton Affair

[This undated retrospective account, perhaps intended for publication, was most likely penned sometime in 1831.]

soon after my arival there was a great pess for office, and it appeared, from the applications and the claims prefered that instead of a love of principle it was the love of office which had induced them to support the Jackson, or good cause as they please to term it. The applications were so numerous for office that it really appeared that self exertion was about to be abandoned and dependence for livelihood, placed upon the Government, the public crib was looked to for the support of thousands. I soon found that a scene of secrete detraction of friends as well as foes was to be the order of the day. My face was turned at once against such demoralising course & I determined to hear with caution, examine well, and grant officces to none but such as was honest & capable—and as the people had called me from my retirement to correct abuses that it should be done faithfully.

My first duty was to select & arrange my Cabinet. The violent Tariff and anti Tariff men I determined not to bring into office This subject had convulsed the country. The Tariff of 1824 I had voted for, and believed it went as far as Justice to all & a judicious policy required, that ~~by~~ the Tariff of 1828, had augmented the duties on several articles beyond what justice to ~~all~~ parts of the union, & a sound policy to all, could justify, that a judicious revision ought to be had, and good policy required I should not take any of my Cabinet from the ultras of either. After reviewing the

whole ground and concluding how necessary it was that I should have in my Cabinet one in whom from long acquaintance I knew I could repose every confidence, I had, ~~addressed~~ from well tried experience every confidence in judge White and Major Eaton but whether either of them would accept of a seat in my Cabinet I could not say—but as these Gentlemen were amonghst they first who gave my name to the public, and urged that it was ~~my~~ a duty I owed to my country not to withdraw it, and having retired from public life as I supposed forever, & having yield to them and other friends, that if elected, tho contrary to my wishes, and the sacrafice of my earthy happiness, I would render to my country ~~my best~~ such service as my humble abilities would afford, that I had a claim upon their aid in the performance of the duties assigned me—so soon as I was advised of my election I wrote to Judge White a confidential letter claiming his or Major Eatons aid in my Executive duties and if he could not accept, then to place before Major Eaton the letter—soon after I reached the city of Wa. on the evening of the 12th. of Febry I had an interview with Judge White on this subject, when he informed me he could not come into the cabinet, & stated that it would be dificult for me to get Eaton—the next day I sent for & had an interview with Major Eaton who at first positively declined. When I brought to his view my retirement, & my fond wishes to remain in retirement on the peaceful Hermitage & that he with others of my friends without my consent or knowledge ushered my name before the nation for the Presidency, and surely now, that him & judge White would not both desert me, and leave me without any of my well tried friends in the cabinet; I clearly foresaw from the signs of the times, the real necessity of having one confidential friend into whose bosom I could on all occasions frankly disclose my views, & who would not betray me—he consented under my appeal to take any situation I might assign him. I soon determined upon the choice. Mr Van Buren sec of State Mr Ingham sec. of the Treasury, Major Eaton sec of war, Govr Branch sec. of the Navy & judge Barrien atto. Genl—continuing Judge McLean postmaster Genl. Written rules upon which my administration should be based, & upon which the reform should take place established, presented to all my Cabinet (expect Mr V. B. who was not present but assented to by Col Hamilton who had consented to take charge of the Dept of State until Mr V. B. should arrive)[1] The Cabinet being settled upon, it got to the public ear & then, the disappointed & disaffected began their secrete intrigue. Major Eaton was to be attacked, & I by the combined influence coerced to abandon him—a female caucus was held, & the Gossips of the city set at work. My female family was approached with the tales that wickedness could invent and the fiends of Hell circulate, and a clergyman professing to be an embassador of christ, under the imposing sanction of a love for religion & morales, when the secrete slander he was propagating was a prostration of both, was enlisted in this wicked cause—and even a paymaster Genl of the army approached me, (no doubt sent by this secrete

female caucus, some of whom had suffered as much as Mrs Eaton by the Tongue of Slander which they were then inflicting upon the innocent Mrs Eaton) to dictate to me who should not compose my cabinet. I replied to him I had intimately known Major Eaton for Twenty years, I knew his virtue and his worth—that I was about to form a Cabinet for the benefit of the Nation, and not for the Gossips & fashionables of this city—some of whom had been as much traduced as Mrs Eaton. It was fortunate for me that I had heard as early as 1823 & 4, heard of those slanders, knew their source & falshood, & never heard any one say the knew one act of their own knowledge disreputable to Mrs Eaton or her want of virtue, and as it respected Major Eaton I knew his morales pure & unspotted, & incapble of such acts as were imputed to him. The paymaster Genl Col Towson said his information was from rumors which he did not pretend to believe or disbelieve, but was acting upon them—how fallen the military character, whose duty & boast is that they are the protectors of Female character—that the Col should so far forget what was due to his station to become the circulator of slander against a female upon mere rumor which he neither professed to believe or disbelieve, and this too when he was silent under the charges made against him of perjury by Major S. Clark late of the army, & was again reiterated in the war office in 1829 with sundry other charges and in every tavern

I was not to be shaken, I knew Major Eatons worth, his stuborn virtue, honesty & talents

A number of the newyork members of congress with many of the Pennsylvania members waited upon me, to urge me not to abandon Eaton, & on the same day my Revd. friend Doctor E. S. Ely wrote me a confidential letter, requesting me not to let Major Eaton go, he was one of the most popular appointments in my cabinet & necessary for me. I assure the Gentlemen I knew his worth, and they might rest assured I never would let him go from my Cabinet. Judge McLean became uneasy in the post office department, and to relieve him, at his own suggestions & expressed wishes I appointed him a judge, and call Major Barry to superintend the Postmaster Generals dept. The Senate having confirmed these nominations, we entered on the administration of the Government. I soon found that there were some master spirit behind the scene, some well drilled diplomatist in slander trying to disturb the harmony of the Cabinet, first to divide & then if possible to destroy Major Eaton & thereby injure me & my administration and altho I had received from my Revd. friend Mr Ely the letter before named urging me to adhere to Major Eaton & had a long conversation with him on this subject the day before he left the city going to & in part returning from church & he & his amiable lady had determined to visit Mr & Mrs Eaton the next morning—still shortly after he ~~left~~ returned to Philadelphia he wrote me an extraordinary letter filled with charges of the blackest kind against Mrs. E. some made by this Revd. Clergyman whose name was witheld.[2] This brought from me

a reply introduced an investigation the name of the Clergyman given up (the Revd John Campbell) and an investigation introduced which has led to the most corrupt & base political combination to destroy an innocent female & pure & upright man, that ever existed in a civilised country see the documents on file.

[Endorsed by AJ:] Eaton—Private—on the formation of Cabinet—

AD, DLC (73; 14-1247).

1. *Jackson Papers,* 7:60–61. James A. Hamilton had served as acting secretary of state for three weeks in March 1829 until Van Buren arrived.

2. *Jackson Papers*, 7:101–4. Ely's wife was Mary Ann Carswell Ely (c1792–1842).

Memorandum on the Seminole Controversy and the Eaton Affair

[This undated account was probably composed late in 1831. Evidently intended for publication, it may have been an earlier version of the fuller exposition that follows immediately below.]

Memorandum. In the year 1813 the creek Indians, instigated by Foreign Agents, and stimulated by the great Prophet of the Northwestern Indians, who about this time were assailing our inhabitants on the northern frontier, waged a ferocious and bloody war against our Southern borders. The destruction of Fort Mimms, and the general masacre which was committed there & at the mouth of Duck river so aroused ~~the~~ such sympathies of the people in behalf of the sufferers, and feelings of indignation against the Indians, ~~and~~ as justly occasioned the State of Tennessee by Legislative enactment to call into the field 5.000 militia to march into the creek nation, and put an end to this murderous war. The command of this force was entrusted to Major Genl. A. Jackson, who had tendered his services to the General Government, under acts of Congress of April and July 1812, with 2,800 enroled volunteers of his division, & which had been accepted by the President of the United States in due form, and in the most flattering manner. The creek war terminated in the month of May 1814 by the conquest and submission of the whole nation, except a few hundred warriors who fled to Florida, and took shelter under the Spanish authority in Pensacola and St. Marks, where they were excited by British and Spanish Agents to a continued hostility against the Citizens of the United States. In the month of July 1814, Woodbine, and Major Nichols, with a British force, took possession of Pensacola, organized, armed and equiped the Indians who had taken shelter there, and aided by a British naval force in Septr. attacked Fort Bowyer and was repulsed both by sea and land. General Jackson, then commanding the 7th. Military District,

in consequence of these overt violations of our rights, collected a sufficient force, and on the first of November marched for, and expelled from Pensacola this British and Indian combination which ~~gave peace~~ secured quiet to our borders up to the declaration of peace. Shortly after the Treaty of peace between the United States and Great Britain this banditti of Indians and negroes assembled at a Fort on the Apalachicola built by the British, and influenced by ~~the~~ Foreign Agents, and *Spanish* Officers of Florida again commenced their murderous war upon our borders having no respect either to age or sex. The greivances and complaints of our Frontier inhabitants were very great, and the call of Georgia, and Alabama upon the general Government for aid and protection was frequent, and sanctioned by the emergency of the occasion. Spain, by the 5th. article of her treaty, was bound to keep all Indians *within her Territory* at peace with the United States; but, in consequence of her ~~ignorance~~ weakness or treachery, she failed to comply with it. This non compliance on the part of Spain and the principles of self defence, under the laws of nations, gave the United States the perfect right to enter Florida, and obtain for herself that safety which Spain had bound herself, but failed to secure, and consequently treat all as enemies who were aiding and abeting these Savages in their unwarrantable attack on our citizens. The government of the United States, for the protection of our Citizens, ordered the erection of a Fort at the junction of Flint River with the chatehauchey, and directed Colo. Clinch, with the necessary trops, to pass round by Sea, ascend the Appalachola with his supplies and occupy this Fort. The Colo. was attacked by this association of Negroes and Indians, and, having some of his men killed, he determined to reduce the Fort, and, therefore, advanced and blew it up by a hot shot. The Indians, negroes and their white associates then retired to Mocasoochee, near St. Marks and to the Suwanee, where they were again excited to war by Arburthnot, Ambrister, Woodbine & the Spanish officers, and by their attrocious conduct again attracted the attention of the government to the situation of the suffering and bleeding inhabitants of the frontier of Georgia & Alabama. Mr. Crawford, who had been secretary of war, was transfered to the Treasury Department, and George Graham—Chief Clerk—was charged with the duties of Secretary of War. Mr. Graham ordered Genl. Gaines to protect the Frontier inhabitants; but not to cross the Florida line into the Territory of Spain. Under this order Foultown was attacked by Gaines. Mr. Calhoun entered upon the discharge of the duties of Secretary of war on _____ day of Decr. 1817, and Colo. Bankhead, previous to this time, had been ordered to dispossess Aury from Amelia Island. Mr. Calhoun writes him, on the 16th. of Decr. 1817, that the evacuation was desired by the President to take place without force; but concludes by saying "you are to understand, that if force should be ultimately necessary, that it should be resorted to" (See order)[1]

And on the same day (16 Decr. 1817) Mr. Calhoun writes to Genl. Gaines, that "on the receipt of this letter, should the Seminole Indians refuse to make reparation for their outrages and depredations on the Citizens of the United States, it is the wish of the President that you consider yourself *at liberty to cross the Florida line, and attack them, within its limits*, &c. unless they shelter themselves under a Spanish Post. In the last event, you will immediately notify this Department."[2] This order was not only disreputable to the Government; but displayed great weakness and was calculated to bring disaster and defeat upon the General and his command. If the Genl. had become engaged with the Indians, *within* the limits of the Spanish possessions, and they had taken shelter under a Spanish post, the observance of this order would have entirely defeated the object of the attack, inasmuch as the Genl. would have been bound by his orders to cease the attack. If Gaines had a right (as the Govt. ordered) to cross the Florida line and attack the Indians when going *at large*, much did a right exist to attack them if permitted to shelter themselves under a Spanish post. In the first case Spain would be regarded as partially *passive*; but in the second must be considered *active* and as having become an accomplice of the murdering Indians. The Indians might enter the neutral ground without the *express assent* of the Spaniards; but *could not* take shelter under one of the Spanish posts without the consent or connivance of the Government.

On the 16th. of Decr. 1817 I received Genl. Gains' letters of the 9th. and 21st. of Novr. communicating intelligence of the outragious depredations of the Indians, and his orders from Major Graham, then acting as Secty. of War, requireing him not to cross the Florida line. In answer to this communication I stated to Genl. Gaines that the Indians *must* be brought to know & feel our strength, that no ideal line ought to shield the savage whose hands had been steeped in the blood of our unoffending women & children. (See letter of the 16th. Decr. 1817). On the 1st. of January 1818, I acknowledge the receipt of Genl. Gaines letters of the 26th. of Novr. & 2nd. of Decr. detailing the particulars of the cruel masacree of Lt. Scott and his party by the Indians. See this letter. It appeares from the documents refered to that, although the Government had ordered Amelia Island to be taken by force, if Aury would not evacuate it, Graham (as Secty. of War) opposed the crossing of the line of Florida in persuit of the murdering savages, and that Mr. Calhoun, on coming into office, gave permission to the General to cross the line, and persue the Indians unless they took shelter under a Spanish post, &c. On the 6th. of January 1818 I acknowledge the receipt from the secretary of war of copies of his letters to Genl. Gaines and Col. Bankhead of the 16th. of Decr. 1817 in respect to the taking of Amelia Island and to which I have already refered. On this same day (6 Jany. 1818) I wrote my confidential letter to Mr. Munroe in which Mr. J. Rhea is refered to, and which, with others, Mr. Calhoun has

published without my consent. This confidential letter it appeares was shewn to Mr. J. Rhea, who was directed to answer it, and state that its contents met the approbation of the Executive. I receivd. the answer to my confidential letter of the 6 Jany. 1818 from Monroe, through Mr. J. Rhea, on my way to Fort Scott, after I had left Hartford, Georgia. It may be proper to remark that, when I wrote my confidential letter to Mr. Monroe, I had no idea that I would be ordered into Florida. On the night of the 11th. of Jany. 1818 I received the order of the Secretary of War of the 26 Decr. 1817 requireing me to repair to Fort Scott and take the command of the Army. (For my proceedings in Florida see reports.) Observe this order of the 26 Decr. 1817 from the Secretary of War and his to Genl. Gaines. These are ample and sufficient to prove that, (as Mr. Calhoun said in his letter to Govr. Bibb) "I was authorized to conduct the war as I pleased." I often told my friends that the executive could not complain of my execution of his orders, except that I did not persue the Indians from Suwanee to St. Augustine, and, in the event of the Spanish Garrison opening their Forts and letting them in, follow them with my bayonets. For the purpose of shewing clearly my understanding of my powers, under the orders of the Government at the time, it may be well to notice the orders I sent Genl. Gaines, after I had returned to Tennessee, when it was reported to me that the Indians had concentrated their force in the neighbourhood of St. Augustine. I then ordered him to punish them, and, if the Spanish permitted them to enter their garrison, to view the Spaniards as identified with them, and act accordingly. In a short time after my return home, being still in such bad health as that none of my friends expected me to recover, I saw in the Georgia Journal that the Executive council had divided in respect to the propriety of my conduct in the Seminole campaign and the subject of my arrest. This Secret movement in the cabinet against me was charged to Mr. Crawford, and the Nashville paper published it as a fact, and charged that Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Adams had supported me, and that Mr. Crawford and Mr. Crowninshield were in favour of my arrest and punishment. Mr. Crawford and myself were not on good terms, and my feelings towards him, at that time, were well calculated to induce the belief, ~~that~~ in my mind, that Mr. Crawford was the mover of these secret propositions in the Cabinet, which, it were hoped, would accomplish my destruction. When I reflected on the fact that my orders were issued by Mr. Calhoun, and explaind by himself, in his letter to Govr. Bibb, to be a *Chart Blanch*, that he had read my confidential letter to Mr. Monroe, who ~~had~~ approved its contents, & requested Mr. Rhea so to answer me, as he did—I could not believe that Mr. Calhoun countenanced the idea of my having transcending my orders. Because to have believed it I must have concluded that Mr. Calhoun was one of the basest men living, and, *at that time*, I entertained, as I expressed, a high opinion of him. I had not only the public orders, but the expressed private wishes of the Government to justify my conduct, and could not suppose that those who were conizant of the facts

could, for a moment, entertain a doubt as to the strict propriety of my conduct. And therefore when I was told by Mr. Rankin and others in 1823 & '24, and, once was informed in the presence of Colo. Thos. L. Williams (then of the senate) that I was blaiming Mr. Crawford unjustly, and that Mr. Calhoun was the instigator of the attacks against me, I could not, did not believe them, and supposed that they were misinformed. In the spring of 1825, Mr. Cobb told me that I blamed Mr. Crawford wrongfully both as it regarded the attempt to injure me in the Cabinet council, and the caucus that framed the resolutions which were offered by him against me. Mr. Cobb, on this occasion, amongst other things, remarked that Mr. ~~Calhoun~~ Crawford, when the resolutions were read in the caucus, rose and with great energy and earnestness said that, if the resolutions were presented to the House, they would ultimately benefit me, recoil upon and injure their supporters, as I had, whenever I choose to use it, a sufficient defence. No doubt is entertained but that Mr. Crawford in this declaration had allusion to the confidential letter, which was produced & read in Cabinet Council. As a further evidence of my entire confidence in the justice of my defence, and firm conviction of my exact compliance with my orders, it will be well to allude to the fact that, when Mr. Monroe (as appeares from his confidential letter to Mr. Calhoun, which I believe was procured by the management of Mr. Calhoun, and for the purpose of inducing me more firmly to believe in his friendship, which he had repeatedly expressed in his conversations and writings (and induced me to confide in it), was trying to amuse my vanity, and get me ~~by~~ to use some ungarded expression, which might be construed into an acknowledgement of my having transcended my orders, I always replied that, so long as my country is to be benefited by any responsibility, I was willing to bear it; but that, the moment my country was to be deprived of the benefits procured by the Seminole campaign, every *tub* must stand upon its own bottom. I here had *direct* reference to my compliance not only with my public orders; but with Mr. Monroe's *private wishes and views* as expressed to me through Mr. Rhea. The great intimacy which existed between Mr. Monroe and Mr. Calhoun, and the nature of the contents of my confidential letter, and the circumstances attending the case, will not authorize any other conclusion than that they deliberated together & concured in their sentiments on the subject. I was determined never to violate a confidence reposed in me unless they who confided it *first* betrayed mine. I never wrote Mr. Monroe more than three confidential letters, and they have all been published. It is presumed that Mr. Monroe's memory failed him when he stated, in his letter to Mr. Calhoun, that he never shew my letter of the 6th. of January 1818 to any one but Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Crawford, as we have *positive proof* that "*that* confidential letter or the substance of it (*he*) did communicate to (J. Rhea)," (see Rhea's letter to Mr. Monroe of the 3rd. June 1831.)[3] and that it was in the hands of Mr. Lacock, chairman of the Senates committee on the Seminole war has been distinctly asserted

by those who are honorable and whose situation afforded them the means of correct information. Mr. Crawford denies ever having seen it except in the Cabinet council, and it is not fairly presumable that ~~he would~~ it was not, at the same time, seen by the other members of the Cabinet. It is found that Mr. Calhoun braught this letter to the view of Mr. Monroe in Decr. 1818. And if I had not been too confiding, and placed such implicit reliance in the strong professions of friendship which Mr. Calhoun made to myself and my friends, when I saw Mr. Calhoun & Mr. Lacock so intimate, and Mr. Calhoun appoint him to a sinecure office, worth say $3000 per Annum, immediately after he made that vile and wicked report, which he & Mr. C well knew contained a tissue of misrepresentation and false colourings from beginning to end, I would, long before I did, have suspected Mr. Calhouns treachery.[4] But for my *then* confidence in the sincerity of Mr. Calhouns declaration to sustain me, I would have scrutinized his acts more attentively, and could have perceived his *real* disposition to crush me. The motives which induced Mr. Calhoun to appoint Lacock to office, after his base attempt to injure an officer under his command, and whom, by every principle of honor, he was bound to defend as far as truth and Justice would warrant, and who, as Mr. C positively knew, had not transcended his orders, are susceptible of *at least* unpleasant Suspicions by no means honourable to Mr. Calhoun. Pending the discussion of Cobb's resolution, Col. Robt. Butler wrote me, from the City of Washington, that my safety and reputation made it necessary for me to repair immediately to the City, which I did. It now appeares that Mr. Calhoun, hearing that Col. Butler had thus written me, and meeting with the Col., asked him if had so written, and, being answered in the affirmative, evinced dissatisfaction, &c. &c. See Col. Butlers letter of _____.[5] When I arrived in the City Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Monroe treated me with great apparent politeness, and, after the vote in the House, and about the adjournment of Congress, Mr. Rhea came to my lodgings from the Presidents, and asked me if I had received his confidential letter in reply to mine to Mr. Monroe of the 6th. of January 1818. I told him that I had received it on my march to Fort Scott. He then asked me where it was, and I replied that it was with my confidential letters *safely locked up at home*. Mr. Rhea then said to me I have waited upon you, with the request of Mr. Monroe, to which I add my own as a friend and brother Mason, that you would burn it. Having full confidence in the friendship of Mr. M & Mr. R, and not fearing but that if it became necessary its contents would be admitted, and the House of Reps having, by a large majority, approved my conduct, and it being suggested by Mr. Rhea that Mr. Monroe was fearfull, my health being delicate, that the letter would fall into the hands of my Executors, I yielded to the request, and promised that on my return home I would burn it. Accordingly on the 12th. of April 1819, in the presence of Mr. Saml. Overton, I did burn it, and made a memorandum of the fact on the margin of my letter Book, opposite to that part of the letter which alludes to Mr.

Rhea. Mr. Calhoun had my confidence to such an extent that, when I was installed into the office of President, he being the second officer in the Govt., I consulted him, as I did the heads of Departments, on the subject of my inaugeral address, which was prepared before I left home, and the matters of great national concern. It was with feelings becoming such a confidence towards Mr. C that I entered on my Executive duties. It is true that there were circumstances attending the conduct of some of his friends that I did not *then* correctly understand or I should most certainly have acted differently. Being determined to have either Judge White or Major Eaton as one of my Cabinet, and Judge White declining to serve, I prevailed on Major Eaton, who with much reluctance, ~~to~~ did accept a station in it, and, as soon as this was known, I discovered among ~~many of~~ Mr. Calhoun's friends considerable anxiety and opposition to Majr. E's appointment. I however did not hesitate on the subject knowing, as I did, the value of Eaton and the confidence that might safely be reposed in him. Some, who I knew were the satalites of Mr. Calhoun, approached me with *slanderous rumours* about Mrs. Eaton; but, after having upon all occasions asked them if they knew anything of themselves derogatory to her character, and being invariably answered in the negative, I dismissed them with a moral lecture on the value of female character, and the baseness of the attempt to destroy it by the circulation of mere rumors, which are so often engendered in envy and put forth in malice. Major Eaton having recommended the appointment of Messers Berrien & Branch and acquiesced in that of the others we came together in the utmost seeming harmony, and there existed every appearance of the greatest friendship between ~~Van Buren~~, Ingham, Eaton, Branch & Berrien. Mr. Van Buren & Mr. Barry had not yet arrived. These appearances induced me to anticipate a very harmonious administration; but in this time and circumstances have proven me to have been mistaken. I was then ignorant of the fact that there existed among some of the members of the Cabinet an hostility to Major Eaton, and a fixed purpose on the part of those whom he had faithfully served to have him expelled or force him to withdraw from it. I was not then aware of the fact that, in order to get Major Eaton out of the Cabinet, I was still to be annoyed by the approach of some, professing friendship, with their slanders about Mrs. E which they attempted to whisper to me in confidence, that a few female gossips had had a meeting in the City to determine who should, and who should not come into society & I was not then informed that Mrs. Calhoun and Mrs. Ingham were at the head of such a clan. I had ~~not then~~ conversed with a certain Divine, who professed great friendship for Major Eaton, on the subject of the slanders which were secretly & insidiously circulated against Mrs. E, ~~and been~~ but had not then been, as I afterwards was asked by him, with great earnestness, if Major Eaton was not politically opposed to Mr. Calhoun. This question at first astonished me and I replied by asking the gentlemen to explain to me what connection politics had with the propogation of

slanders against a female. From all the circumstances attending this conversation my eyes were so opened as to enable me to perceive the *true* cause of the vile slanders against and cruel persecution of Major Eaton. ~~About this time~~ I heared it stated that Mr. Crawford had made a statement of the transactions in the Cabinet on the subject of the Seminole campaign, and about this time Mr. Monroe happening in the City was invited, with the heads of Departments and others, to dine with me. Whilst dining the Marshal of the District of Co introduced the subject to Major Lewis, and among other matters spoke of Mr. Monroe's strong friendship and support of me in this matter, and, being informed by Major Lewis that I had always regarded Mr. Calhoun as my firm and undeviating supporter, Mr. Ringgold also remarked that Calhoun was the first man who had made a movement against me. Being informed of this, and having heard that Mr. Crawford had made a statement on the subject, and seeing the misterious opposition that had sprung up and was shewing itself among those over whom Mr. Calhoun was known to have influence, I made enquiry concerning and obtained the statement of Mr. Crawford, which, in one hour after its receipt, I laid before Mr. Calhoun and I need not reiterate, what I have always said, that his (Calhouns) answer surprised, yes astonished me.

D in George Breathitt's hand, DLC (41).

1. *Calhoun Papers*, 2:20. George Graham (1770–1830) had been acting secretary of war in 1816–1817. Duncan Lamont Clinch (1787–1849) and James Bankhead (1783–1856) were career Army officers.

2. *Calhoun Papers*, 2:20.

3. Above. The note rendered here in parentheses is in the margin, marked for insertion.

4. Lacock's Senate term ended on March 3, 1819. On January 30, 1820, he wrote Monroe thanking Crawford—not Calhoun—for furnishing him employment on the Cumberland Road. He also said that in the winter of 1818–1819 he had seen a letter from AJ aiming to "put down" Monroe's administration for its "'weak and pusillanimous'" conduct in returning the Spanish posts, and that one motive for his committee report had been to divert AJ from attacking the administration to defending himself (Monroe Papers, DLC).

5. June 9, 1831 (above).

Exposition on the Seminole Controversy

[Throughout 1831, Jackson gathered materials for a reply to Calhoun's February 17 publication on the Seminole controversy. Jackson wrote Robert M. Burton on October 20 that he was "preparing a reply for Mr Calhoun," and wrote Henry Baldwin on October 31 that he was "preparing facts for the faithfull historian." He wrote Baldwin again on February 27, 1832, about "the expose I am about to make" (DLC-40).

Jackson never published his reply. But in 1854, Thomas Hart Benton printed a text of it in his Thirty Years' View, *a retrospective of Benton's three decades as a U.S. senator from Missouri. Benton said that the manuscript, titled* "An exposition of Mr. Calhoun's course towards General

Jackson" *and written in a clerk's hand with interlineations by Jackson, was then in his possession. It is no longer extant. The text appears here exactly as presented by Benton, including his bracketed insertions. All the documents cited in the exposition were in Jackson's hands by the end of 1831. It was likely composed around then, and almost certainly before Jackson received a June 25, 1832, letter from Abner Lacock directly contradicting its account of Lacock's conversations with Calhoun.]*

EXPOSITION.

It will be recollected that in my correspondence with Mr. Calhoun which he has published, I engaged, when the documents should be at hand, to give a statement of facts respecting my conduct in the Seminole campaign, which would present it in a very different light from the one in which that gentleman has placed it.

Although the time I am able to devote to the subject, engrossed as I am in the discharge of my public duties, is entirely inadequate to do it justice, yet from the course pursued by Mr. Calhoun, from the frequent misrepresentations of my conduct on that occasion, from the misapprehension of my motives for entering upon that correspondence, from the solicitations of numerous friends in different parts of the country, and in compliance with that engagement, I present to my fellow-citizens the following statement, with the documents on which it rests.

I am aware that there are some among us who deem it unfit that the chief magistrate of this nation should, under any circumstances, appear before the public in this manner, to vindicate his conduct. These opinions or feelings may result from too great fastidiousness, or from a supposed analogy between his station and that of the first magistrate of other countries, of whom it is said they can do no wrong, or they may be well founded. I, however, entertain different opinions on this subject. It seems to me that the course I now take of appealing to the judgment of my fellow-citizens, if not in exact conformity with past usage, at least springs from the spirit of our popular institutions, which requires that the conduct and character of every man, how elevated soever may be his station should be fairly and freely submitted to the discussion and decision of the people. Under this conviction I have acted heretofore, and now act, not wishing this or any other part of my public life to be concealed. I present my whole conduct in connection with the subject of that correspondence in this form, to the indulgent but firm and enlightened consideration of my fellow citizens.

[Here follows a justification of Gen. Jackson's conduct under the law of nations, and under the orders to Gen. Gaines, his predecessor in the command.]

Such was the gradation of orders issued by the government. At first they instructed their general "*not to pass the line*." He is next instructed to "*exercise a sound discretion as to the necessity of crossing the line*."

He is then directed to *consider himself "at liberty to march across the Florida line*," but to halt, and report to the department in case the Indians "*should shelter themselves under a Spanish fort.*" Finally, after being informed of the atrocious massacre of the men, women and children constituting the party of Lieutenant Scott, they order a new general into the field, and direct him to "*adopt the necessary measures to put an end to the conflict*, without regard to territorial '*lines*,' or '*Spanish forts*.'" Mr. Calhoun's own understanding of the order issued by him, is forcibly and clearly explained in a letter written by him in reply to the inquiries of Governor Bibb, of Alabama, dated the 13th of May, 1818, in which he says:—"*General Jackson is vested with full power to conduct the war as he may think best.*"

These orders were received by General Jackson at Nashville, on the night of the 12th January, 1818, and he instantly took measures to carry them into effect.

In the mean time, however, he had received copies of the orders to General Gaines, to take possession of Amelia Island, and to enter Florida, but halt and report to the department, in case the Indians sheltered themselves under a Spanish fort. Approving the policy of the former, and perceiving in the latter, dangers to the army, and injury to the country, on the 6th of January he addressed a confidential letter to the President, frankly disclosing his views on both subjects. The following is a copy of that letter, viz.:—

NASHVILLE, *6th Jan.*, 1818.

SIR:—A few days since, I received a letter from the Secretary of War, of the 17th ult., with inclosures. Your order of the 19th ult. through him to Brevet Major General Gaines to enter the territory of Spain, and chastise the ruthless savages who have been depredating on the property and lives of our citizens, will meet not only the approbation of your country, but the approbation of Heaven. Will you however permit me to suggest the catastrophe that might arise by General Gaines's compliance with the last clause of your order? Suppose the case that the Indians are beaten: they take refuge either in Pensacola or St. Augustine, which open their gates to them: to profit by his victory, General Gaines pursues the fugitives, and has to halt before the garrison until he can communicate with his government. In the mean time the militia grow restless, and he is left to defend himself by the regulars. The enemy, with the aid of their Spanish friends, and Woodbine's British partisans, or, if you please with Aurey's force, attacks him. What may not be the result? Defeat and massacre. Permit me to remark that the arms of the United States must be carried to any point within the limits of East Florida, where an enemy is permitted and protected, or disgrace attends.

The Executive Government have ordered, and, as I conceive, very properly, Amelia Island to be taken possession of. This order ought to be

carried into execution at all hazards, and simultaneously the whole of East Florida seized, and held as an indemnity for the outrages of Spain upon the property of our citizens. This done, it puts all opposition down, secures our citizens a complete indemnity, and saves us from a war with Great Britain, or some of the continental powers combined with Spain. This can be done without implicating the government. *Let it be signified to me through any channel (say Mr. J. Rhea), that the possession of the Floridas would be desirable to the United States, and in sixty days it will be accomplished.*

The order being given for the possession of Amelia Island, it ought to be executed, or our enemies, internal and external, will use it to the disadvantage of the government. If our troops enter the territory of Spain in pursuit of our Indian enemy, all opposition that they meet with must be put down, or we will be involved in danger and disgrace.

I have the honor, &c.

ANDREW JACKSON.

James Monroe, *President U. S.*

The course recommended by General Jackson in this letter relative to the occupation of the Floridas accords with the policy which dictated the secret act of Congress. He recommended no more than the President had a right to do. In consequence of the occupation of Amelia Island by the officers of the Colombian and Mexican governments, and the attempt to occupy the whole province, the President had a right, under the act of Congress, to order General Jackson to take possession of it in the name of the United States. He would have been the more justifiable in doing so, because the inhabitants of the province, the Indian subjects of the King of Spain, whom he was bound not only by the laws of nations, but by treaty to restrain, were in open war with the United States.

Mr. Calhoun, the Secretary of War, was the first man who read this letter after its reception at Washington. In a letter from Mr. Monroe to General Jackson, dated 21st December, 1818, published in the Calhoun correspondence, page 44, is the following account of the reception, opening and perusal of this letter, viz.: "Your letter of January 6th, was received while I was seriously indisposed. Observing that it was from you, I handed it to Mr. Calhoun to read, after reading one or two lines only myself. The order to you to take command in that quarter had before been issued. He remarked after perusing the letter, that it was a confidential one relating to Florida, *which I must answer*."[1]

In accordance with the advice of Mr. Calhoun, and availing himself of the suggestion contained in the letter, Mr. Monroe sent for Mr. John Rhea (then a member of Congress), showed him the confidential letter, and requested him to answer it. In conformity with this request Mr. Rhea did answer the letter, and informed General Jackson that the President

had shown him the confidential letter, and requested him to state that he approved of its suggestions. This answer was received by the general on the second night he remained at Big Creek, which is four miles in advance of Hartford, Georgia, and before his arrival at Fort Scott, to take command of the troops in that quarter.

General Jackson had already received orders, vesting him with discretionary powers in relation to the measures necessary to put an end to the war. He had informed the President in his confidential letter, that in his judgment it was necessary to seize and occupy the whole of Florida. This suggestion had been considered by Mr. Calhoun and the President, and approved. From this confidential correspondence before he entered Florida, it was understood on *both sides*, that under the order received by him he would occupy the whole province, if an occasion to do so should present itself; as Mr. Calhoun wrote to Governor Bibb, he was "authorized to conduct the war as he thought best;" and how he "thought best" to conduct it was then made known to the Executive, and approved, before he struck a blow.

In the approval given by Mr. Monroe upon the advice of Mr. Calhoun to the suggestions of General Jackson, he acted in strict obedience to the laws of his country. By the secret act of Congress, the President was authorized, under circumstances then existing, to seize and occupy all Florida. Orders had been given which were sufficiently general in their terms to cover that object. The confidential correspondence, and private understanding, made them, so far as regarded the parties, as effectually orders *to take and occupy the Province of Florida as if that object had been declared on their face*.

Under these circumstances General Jackson entered Florida with a *perfect right*, according to international law, and the constitution and laws of his country, to take possession of the whole territory. He was clothed with all the power of the President, and authorized "to conduct the war as he thought best." He had orders as general and comprehensive as words could make them: he had the confidential approbation of the President to his confidential recommendation to seize Florida: and he entered the province with the full knowledge that not only justice and policy but the laws of his country, and the orders of the President as publicly and privately explained and understood, would justify him in expelling every Spanish garrison, and extending the jurisdiction of the United States over every inch of its territory.

Nevertheless, General Jackson, from his knowledge of the situation of affairs in Florida, expected to find a justification for himself in the conduct of the Spanish authorities. On the contrary, had he found on entering the province that the agents and officers of Spain, instead of instigating, encouraging and supplying the Indians, had used all the means in their power to prevent and put an end to hostilities, he would not have incurred the responsibility of seizing their fortresses and expelling them from the

country. But he wrote to the President, and entered upon the campaign with other expectations, and in these he was not disappointed.

As he approached St. Marks it was ascertained that it was a place of rendezvous and a source of supply for the Indians. Their councils had been held within its walls: its storehouses were appropriated to their use: they had there obtained supplies of ammunition: there they had found a market for their plunder: and in the commandant's family resided Alexander Arbuthnot, the chief instigator of the war. Moreover, the negroes and Indians under Ambrister threatened to drive out the feeble Spanish garrison and take entire possession of the fort, as a means of protection for themselves and annoyance to the United States. In these circumstances General Jackson found enough to justify him in assuming the responsibility of seizing and occupying that post with an American garrison.

The Indians had been dispersed, and St. Marks occupied. No facts had as yet appeared which would justify General Jackson in assuming the responsibility of occupying the other Spanish posts in Florida. He considered the war as at an end, and was about to discharge a considerable portion of his force, when he was informed that a portion of the hostile Indians had been received, fed and supplied by the Spanish authorities in Pensacola. He therefore directed his march upon that point. On his advance he received a letter from the governor, denouncing his entry into Florida as a violent outrage on the rights of Spain, requiring his immediate retreat from the Territory, and threatening in case of refusal to use force to expel him. This declaration of hostilities on the part of the Spanish authorities, instead of removing, tended to increase the necessity for the General's advance, because it was manifest to both parties that if the American army then left Florida, the Indians, under the belief that there they would always find a safe retreat, would commence their bloody incursions upon our frontiers with redoubled fury; and General Jackson was warned that if he left any portion of his army to restrain the Indians, and retired with his main force, the Spaniards would be openly united with the Indians to expel the whole, and thus it became as necessary in order to terminate the war to destroy or capture the Spanish force at Pensacola as the Indians themselves. In this attitude of the Spanish governor, and in the fact that the hostile Indians were received, fed, clothed, furnished with munitions of war, and that their plunder was purchased in Pensacola, General Jackson found a justification for seizing that post also, and holding it in the name of the United States.

St. Augustine was still in the hands of the Spaniards, and no act of the authorities or people of that place was known to General Jackson previous to his return to Tennessee, which would sustain him in assuming the responsibility of occupying that city. However, about the 7th of August, 1818, he received information that the Indians were there also received and supplied. On that day, therefore, he issued an order to General Gaines, directing him to collect the evidences of these facts, and if they

were well founded, to take possession of that place. The following is an extract from that order:

"I have noted with attention Major Twiggs' letter marked No. 5. I contemplated that the agents of Spain or the officers of Fort St. Augustine would excite the Indians to hostility and furnish them with the means. It will be necessary to obtain evidence substantiating this fact, and that the hostile Indians have been fed and furnished from the garrison of St. Augustine. This being obtained, should you deem your force sufficient, you will proceed to take and garrison with American troops, Fort St. Augustine, and hold the garrison prisoners until you hear from the President of the United States, or transport them to Cuba, as in your judgment under existing circumstances you may think best."

An order had some time before been given to the officer of ordnance at Charleston, to have in readiness a battery train, and to him General Gaines was referred.

The order to take St. Augustine has often been adduced as evidence of General Jackson's determination to do as he pleased, without regard to the orders or wishes of his government. Though justifiable on the ground of self-defence, it would never have been issued but for the confidential orders given to General Gaines and Colonel Bankhead, to take possession of Amelia Island forcibly, if not yielded peaceably, and when possessed, to retain and fortify it; and the secret understanding which existed between him and the government, in consequence of which he never doubted that he was acting in compliance with the wishes, and in accordance with the orders and expectations of the President and Secretary of War.

To show more conclusively the impressions under which General Jackson acted, reference should be had to the fact that, after the capture of the Spanish forts, he instructed Captain Gadsden to prepare and report a plan for the permanent defence of Florida, which was agreeable to the confidential orders to General Gaines and Col. Bankhead before referred to. Of this he informed the Secretary of War in a dispatch dated 2d June, 1818, of which the following is an extract:—

"Captain Gadsden is instructed to prepare and report on the necessary defences as far as the military reconnoissances he has taken will permit, accompanied with plans of existing works; what additions or improvements are necessary, and what new works should, in his opinion, be erected to *give permanent security to this important territorial addition to our republic*. As soon as the report is prepared, Captain Gadsden will receive orders to repair to Washington City with some other documents which I may wish to confide to his charge."

This plan was completed and forwarded to Mr. Calhoun on the 10th of the succeeding August, by Captain Gadsden himself, with a letter from General Jackson, urging the necessity not only of retaining possession of St. Marks, but Pensacola. The following is a part of that letter:

"Captain Gadsden will also deliver you his report made in pursuance of my order, accompanied with the plans of the fortifications thought necessary for the defence of the Floridas, in connection with the line of defence on our Southern frontier.

"This was done under the belief that the government will never jeopardize the safety of the Union, or the security of our frontier, by surrendering those posts, and the possession of the Floridas, unless upon a sure guaranty agreeable to the stipulations of the articles of capitulation, that will insure permanent peace, tranquillity and security to our Southern frontier. It is believed that Spain can never furnish this guaranty. As long as there are Indians in Florida, and it is possessed by Spain, they will be excited to war, and the indiscriminate murder of our citizens, by foreign agents combined with the officers of Spain. The duplicity and conduct of Spain for the last six years fully prove this. It was on a belief that the Floridas would be held, that my order was given to Captain Gadsden to make the report he has done."

Again: "By Captain Gadsden you will receive some letters lately inclosed to me, detailing the information that the Spaniards at Fort St. Augustine are again exciting the Indians to war against us, and a copy of my order to General Gaines on this subject. It is what I expected, and proves the justice and sound policy of not only holding the posts we are now in possession of, but of possessing ourselves of St. Augustine. This, and this alone can give us peace and security on 'our Southern frontier.'"

It is thus clearly shown that in taking possession of St. Marks and Pensacola, and giving orders to take St. Augustine, I was acting within the letter as well as spirit of my orders, and in accordance with the secret understanding between the government and myself, and under a full persuasion that these fortresses would never again be permitted by our government to pass under the dominion of Spain. From the time of writing my confidential letter of the 6th of January to the date of this dispatch, the 10th of August, 1818, I never had an intimation that the wishes of the government had changed, or that less was expected of me, if the occasion should prove favorable, than the occupation of the whole of Florida. On the contrary, either by their direct approval of my measures, or their silence, the President and Mr. Calhoun gave me reason to suppose that I was to be sustained, and that the Floridas after being occupied were to be held for the benefit of the United States. Upon receiving my orders on the 11th of January, I took instant measures to bring into the field a sufficient force to accomplish all the objects suggested in my confidential letter of the 6th, of which I informed the War Department, and Mr. Calhoun in his reply dated 29th January, 1818, after the receipt of my confidential letter, and a full knowledge and approbation of my views says:—

"The measures you have taken to bring an efficient force into the field are approbated, and a confident hope is entertained that a speedy and successful termination of the Indian war will follow your exertions."

Having received further details of my preparations, not only to terminate the Seminole war, but, as the President and his Secretary well knew, *to occupy Florida also*, Mr. Calhoun on the 6th February, writes as follows:—

"I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th ult., and to acquaint you with the entire approbation of the President of all the measures you have adopted to terminate the rupture with the Indians."

On the 13th of May following, with a full knowledge that I intended if a favorable occasion presented itself to occupy Florida, and that the design had the approbation of the President, Mr. Calhoun wrote to Governor Bibb, of Alabama, the letter already alluded to, concluding as follows:—

"General Jackson is vested with full powers to conduct the war in the manner he may deem best."

On the 25th of March, 1818, I informed Mr. Calhoun that I intended to occupy St. Marks, and on the 8th of April I informed him that it was done.

Not a whisper of disapprobation or of doubt reached me from the government.

On the 5th May I wrote to Mr. Calhoun that I was about to move upon Pensacola with a view of occupying that place.

Again, no reply was ever given disapproving or discountenancing this movement.

On the 2d of June I informed Mr. Calhoun that I had on the 24th May entered Pensacola, and on the 28th had received the surrender of the Barrancas.

Again no reply was given to this letter expressing any disapproval of these acts.

In fine, from the receipt of the President's reply to my confidential letter of 6th January, 1818, through Mr. Rhea, until the receipt of the President's private letter, dated 19th July, 1818, I received no instructions or intimations from the government public or private that my operations in Florida were other than such as the President and Secretary of War expected and approved. I had not a doubt that I had acted in every respect in strict accordance with their views, and that without publicly avowing that they had authorized my measures they were ready at all times and under all circumstances to sustain me; and that as there were sound reasons and justifiable cause for taking possession of Florida, they would in pursuance of their private understanding with me retain it as indemnity for the spoliations committed by Spanish subjects on our citizens, and as security for the peace of our Southern frontier. I was willing to rest my vindication for taking the posts on the hostile conduct of their officers and garrisons, bearing all the responsibility myself: but I expected my government would find in their claims upon Spain, and the danger to which our

frontier would again be exposed, sufficient reasons for not again delivering them into the possession of Spain.

It was late in August before I received official information of the decision of the government to restore the posts, and about the same time I saw it stated in the Georgia Journal that the cabinet had been divided in relation to the course pursued by me in Florida; and also an extract of a letter in a Nashville paper, alleging that a movement had been made in the cabinet against me which was attributed to Mr. Crawford, in which extract it is expressly stated that I had been triumphantly vindicated by *Mr. Calhoun* and Mr. Adams. Being convinced that the course I had pursued was justified by considerations of public policy, by the laws of nations, by the state of things to which I have referred, and by the instructions, intimations, and acquiescence of the government, and believing that the latter had been communicated to all the members of the cabinet, I considered that such a movement by Mr. Crawford was founded on considerations foreign to the public interests, and personally inimical to me; and therefore, after these public and explicit intimations of what had occurred in the cabinet, I was prepared to, and did believe that Mr. Crawford was bent on my destruction, and was the author of the movement in the cabinet to which they referred. I the more readily entertained this belief in relation to him (in which I am rejoiced to avail myself of this public occasion to say I did him injustice) because it was impossible that I should suspect that any proposition to punish or censure me could come from either the President or Mr. Calhoun, as I well knew that I had expressed to the President my opinion that Florida ought to be taken, and had offered to take it if he would give me an intimation through Mr. Rhea that it was desirable to do so, which intimation was given; that they had given me orders broad enough to sanction all that was done; that Mr. Calhoun had expressly interpreted those orders as vesting me "with full power to conduct the war as he (I) might think best;" that they had expressly approved of all my preparations, and in silence witnessed all my operations. Under these circumstances it was impossible for me to believe, whatever change might have taken place in their views of public policy, that either the President or Mr. Calhoun could have originated or countenanced any proposition tending to cast censure upon me, much less to produce my arrest, trial, and punishment.

If these facts and statements could have left room for a doubt in relation to Mr. Calhoun's approval of my conduct and of his friendship for me, I had other evidence of a nature perfectly conclusive. In August, 1818, Colonel A. P. Hayne, Inspector General of the Southern Division, who had served in this campaign, came to Washington to settle his accounts, and resign his staff appointment in the army. He was the fellow-citizen and friend of Mr. Calhoun, and held constant personal interviews with him for some weeks in settling his accounts. On the 24th September he addressed a letter to me, stating that he had closed his public accounts

entirely to his satisfaction, and in relation to public affairs among other things remarks:—

"The course the administration has thought proper to adopt is to me *inexplicable*. They *retain St. Marks*, and in the same breath *give up* Pensacola. Who can comprehend this? The American nation possesses discernment, and will judge for themselves. Indeed, sir, I fear that Mr. Monroe has on the present occasion yielded to the opinion of those about him. I cannot believe that it is the result of his own honest convictions. Mr. Calhoun certainly thinks with you altogether, although after the decision of the cabinet, he must of course nominally support what has been done." And in another letter, dated 21st January, 1819, he says: "Since I last saw you I have travelled through West and East Tennessee, through Kentucky, through Ohio, through the western and eastern part of Pennsylvania, and the whole of Virginia—have been much in Baltimore and Philadelphia, and the united voice of the people of those States and towns (and I have taken great pains to inform myself) approve of your conduct in every respect. And the people of the United States at large entertain precisely the same opinion with the people of those States. So does the administration, to wit: Mr. Monroe, *Mr. Calhoun*, and Mr. Adams. Mr. Monroe is your *friend*. He has *identified* you with himself. After the most mature reflection and deliberation upon all of your operations, he has covered your conduct. But I am candid to confess that he did not adopt this line of conduct (in my mind) as soon as he ought to have done. Mr. Adams has done honor to his country and himself."

Colonel Hayne is a man of honor, and did not intend to deceive; I had no doubt, and have none now, that he derived his impressions from conversations with Mr. Calhoun himself; nor have I any doubt that Mr. Calhoun purposely conveyed those impressions that they might be communicated to me. Without other evidence than this letter, how could I have understood Mr. Calhoun otherwise than as approving my whole conduct, and as having defended me in the cabinet? How could I have understood any seeming dissent in his official communications otherwise than as arising from his obligation to give a "nominal support" to the decision of the cabinet which in reality he disapproved?

The reply to my confidential letter, the approval of my preparations, the silence of Mr. Calhoun during the campaign, the enmity of Mr. Crawford, the language of the newspapers, the letters of Colonel Hayne, and other letters of similar import from other gentlemen who were on familiar terms with the Secretary of War, left no doubt on my mind that Mr. Calhoun approved of my conduct in the Seminole war "altogether;" had defended me against an attack of Mr. Crawford in the cabinet, and was, throughout the struggle in Congress so deeply involving my character and fame, my devoted and zealous friend. This impression was confirmed by the personal kindness of Mr. Calhoun towards me, during my visit to this city, pending the proceedings of Congress relative to the Seminole war,

and on every after occasion. Nor was such conduct confined to me alone, for however inconsistent with his proposition in the cabinet, that I should "be punished in some form," or in the language of Mr. Adams, as to what passed there "that General Jackson should be brought to trial," in several conversations with Colonel Richard M. Johnson, while he was preparing the counter report of the Military Committee of the House of Representatives, Mr. Calhoun always spoke of me with respect and kindness, *and approved of my course*.

So strong was my faith in Mr. Calhoun's friendship that the appointment of Mr. Lacock, shortly after he had made his report upon the Seminole war in the Senate, to an important office, although inexplicable to me, did not shake it.

I was informed by Mr. Rankin (member of the House of Representatives from Mississippi), and others in 1823 and 1824, once in the presence of Colonel Thomas H. Williams (of Mississippi) of the Senate, that I had blamed Mr. Crawford unjustly and that Mr. Calhoun was the instigator of the attacks made upon me: yet in consequence of the facts and circumstances already recapitulated tending to prove Mr. Calhoun's approval of my course, I could not give the assertion the least credit.

Again in 1825 Mr. Cobb told me that I blamed Mr. Crawford wrongfully, both for the attempt to injure me in the cabinet, and for having an agency in framing the resolutions which he (Mr. Cobb) offered in Congress censuring my conduct in the Seminole war. He stated on the contrary that Mr. Crawford was opposed to those resolutions and always asserted that "*General Jackson had a sufficient defence whenever he chose to make it, and that the attempt to censure him would do him good, and recoil upon its authors*;" yet it was impossible for me to believe that Mr. Calhoun had been my enemy; on the contrary I did not doubt that he had been my devoted friend, not only through all those difficulties, but in the contest for the Presidency which ended in the election of Mr. Adams.

In the Spring of 1828 the impression of Mr. Calhoun's rectitude and fidelity towards me was confirmed by an incident which occurred during the progress of an effort to reconcile all misunderstanding between him and Mr. Crawford and myself. Colonel James A. Hamilton of New-York inquired of Mr. Calhoun himself, at Washington, "whether at any meeting of Mr. Monroe's cabinet the propriety of arresting General Jackson for any thing done during the Seminole war had been at any time discussed?" Mr. Calhoun replied, "Never: such a measure was not thought of, much less discussed. The only point before the cabinet was the answer to be given to the Spanish government." In consequence of this conversation Colonel Hamilton wrote to Major Lewis, a member of the Nashville committee, that "the Vice-President, who you know was the member of the cabinet best acquainted with the subject, told me General Jackson's arrest was never thought of, much less discussed." Information of this statement renewed and strengthened the impression relative to the

friendship of Mr. Calhoun, which I had entertained from the time of the Seminole war.

In a private letter to Mr. Calhoun dated 25th May, 1828, written after the conversation with Colonel Hamilton had been communicated to me, I say in relation to the Seminole war:

"I can have no wish at this day to obtain an explanation of the orders under which I acted whilst charged with the campaign against the Seminole Indians in Florida. I viewed them when received as plain and explicit, and called for by the situation of the country. I executed them faithfully, and was happy in reply to my reports to the Department of War to receive your approbation for it."

Again: "The fact is, I never had the least ground to believe (previous to the reception of Mr. Monroe's letter of 19th July, 1818) that any difference of opinion between the government and myself existed on the subject of my powers. So far from this, to the communications which I made showing the construction which I placed upon them, there was not only no difference of opinion indicated in the replies of the Executive, but as far as I received replies, an entire approval of the measures which I had adopted."

This was addressed directly from me to Mr. Calhoun, in May, 1828. In his reply Mr. Calhoun does not inform me that I was in error. He does not tell me that he disapproved my conduct, and thought I ought to have been punished for a violation of orders. He does not inform me that he or any other had proposed in the cabinet council a court of inquiry, or any other court. He says nothing inconsistent with the impression already made upon my mind—nothing which might not have been expected from one who had been obliged to give a "nominal support" to a decision which he disapproved. His reply, dated 10th July, 1828, is in these words:

"Any discussion of them" (the orders) "now, I agree with you, would be unnecessary. They are matters of history, and must be left to the historian as they stand. In fact I never did suppose that the justification of yourself or the government depended on a critical construction of them. It is sufficient for both that they were honestly issued, and honestly executed, without involving the question whether they were executed strictly in accordance with the intention that they were issued. Honest and patriotic motives are all that can be required, and I never doubted that they existed on both sides."

It was certainly impossible for me to conceive that Mr. Calhoun had urged in cabinet council a court of inquiry with a view to my ultimate punishment for violation of orders which he admitted were "*honestly executed*," especially as he *never doubted* that my "motives" were "*honest and patriotic*." After this letter I could not have doubted, if I had before, that Mr. Calhoun had zealously vindicated my "honest and patriotic" acts in Mr. Monroe's cabinet against the supposed attacks of Mr. Crawford, as had long before been announced. I could not have doubted

that Mr. Calhoun "thought with me altogether," as I had been informed by Colonel Hayne. I could not have conceived that Mr. Calhoun had *ever* called in question my compliance with my orders, when he says he "*never did suppose*" that my "*justification* depended on a critical construction of them," and "that it was sufficient that they were honestly executed."

By the unlimited authority conferred on me by my orders; by the writing and reception of my confidential letter and the answer thereto advised by Mr. Calhoun; by the positive approval of all my preparatory measures and the silence of the government during my operations; by uncontradicted publications in the newspapers; by positive assurances received through the friends of Mr. Calhoun; by Mr. Calhoun's declaration to Colonel Hamilton; and finally by his own assurance that he never doubted the honesty or patriotism with which I executed my orders, which he "*deemed sufficient*" without inquiring "*whether they were executed strictly in accordance with the intention that they were issued*," I was authorized to believe and did believe that Mr. Calhoun had been my devoted friend, defending on all occasions, public and private, my whole conduct in the Seminole war. With these impressions I entered upon the discharge of the duties of President, in March, 1829.

Recent disclosures prove that these impressions were entirely erroneous, and that Mr. Calhoun himself was the author of the proposition made in the cabinet to subject me to a court of inquiry, with a view to my ultimate punishment for a violation of orders.

My feelings towards Mr. Calhoun continued of the most friendly character until my suspicions of his fairness were awakened by the following incident. The late Marshal of the District of Columbia (Mr. Tench Ringold), conversing with a friend of mine in relation to the Seminole war, spoke in strong terms of Mr. Monroe's support of me; and upon being informed that I had always regarded Mr. Calhoun as my firm and undeviating friend and supporter, and particularly on that occasion, Mr. Ringold replied that *Mr. Calhoun was the first man to move in the cabinet for my punishment, and that he was against me on that subject*. Informed of this conversation, and recurring to the repeated declarations that had been made to me by different persons and at different times, that Mr. Calhoun, and not Mr. Crawford, was the person who had made that movement against me in the cabinet, and observing the mysterious opposition that had shown itself, particularly among those who were known to be the friends and partisans of Mr. Calhoun, and that the measures which I had recommended to the consideration of Congress, and which appeared to have received the approbation of the people, were neglected or opposed in that quarter whence I had a right to believe they would have been brought forward and sustained, I felt a desire to see the written statement which I had been informed Mr. Crawford had made, in relation to the proceedings of the cabinet, that I might ascertain its true character. I sought and obtained it, in the manner heretofore stated, and immediately sent it to

Mr. Calhoun, and asked him frankly whether it was possible that the information given in it was correct? His answer, which he has given to the world, indeed, as I have before stated, surprised, nay, astonished me. I had always refused to believe, notwithstanding the various assurances I had received, that Mr. Calhoun could be so far regardless of that duty which the plainest principles of justice and honor imposed upon him, as to propose the punishment of a subordinate officer for the violation of orders which were so evidently discretionary as to permit me as he (Mr. Calhoun) informed Governor Bibb, "to conduct the war as he may think best." But the fact that he so acted has been affirmed by all who were present on the occasion, and admitted by himself.*

* Mr. Calhoun in his conversation with Colonel Hamilton, substantially denied that such a proposition as that which he now admits he made, was ever submitted to the cabinet. He is asked "whether at any meeting of Mr. Monroe's cabinet the propriety of arresting General Jackson for any thing done during the Seminole war had been at any time discussed." He replies "Never; such a measure was not thought of, much less discussed: *the only point before the cabinet was the answer to be given to the Spanish government*." By the last branch of the answer the denial is made to embrace the whole subject in any form it might have assumed, and therefore deprives Mr. Calhoun of all grounds of cavil or escape by alleging that he only proposed a military inquiry, and not an arrest, and that he did not therefore answer the inquiry in the negative. But again when Colonel Hamilton submitted to Mr. Calhoun his recollection of the conversation that Mr. Calhoun might correct it if erroneous, and informed him that he did so because he intended to communicate it to Major Lewis, Mr. Calhoun did not question the correctness of Colonel Hamilton's recollection of the conversation; he does not qualify or alter it; he does not say, as in frankness he was bound to do—"It is true, the proposition to arrest General Jackson was not discussed, but an inquiry into his conduct in that war was discussed on a proposition to that end made by me." He does not say that the answer to the Spanish government was not the only point before the cabinet, but he endeavors, without denying as was alleged by Colonel Hamilton that this part of the conversation was understood between them to be confidential, to prevent him from making it public, and to that end and that alone he writes a letter of ten pages on the sacredness of cabinet deliberations. Why, let us ask, did Mr. Calhoun upon reflection feel so much solicitude to prevent a disclosure of his answer to Colonel Hamilton, which if true could not injure him? At first, although put upon his guard he admits that this part of the conversation was not confidential, although it referred to what was, as well as what was not done in cabinet council. The reason is to be found in his former involutions, and in the fact that the answer was not true, and in his apprehension that if that answer was made public, Mr. Crawford, who entertained the worst opinions of Mr. Calhoun, and who had suffered in

General Jackson's opinion on this subject, would immediately disclose the whole truth, as he has since done; and that thus the veil worn out, of the sacredness of cabinet deliberations under which Mr. Calhoun upon second thought had endeavored to conceal himself, would be raised, and he would be exposed to public indignation and scorn. This could alone be the motive for his extreme anxiety to prevent Colonel Hamilton from communicating the result of an inquiry made by him from the best and purest motives, to the persons who had prompted that inquiry from like motives.[2]

That Mr. Calhoun, with his knowledge of facts and circumstances, should have dared to make such a proposition, can only be accounted for from the sacredly confidential character which he attaches to the proceedings of a cabinet council. His views of this subject are strongly expressed in his printed correspondence, page 15. "I am not at all surprised," says he, "that Mr. Crawford should feel that he stands in need of an apology for betraying the deliberations of the cabinet. It is, I believe, not only the first instance in our country, but one of a very few instances in any country, or any age, that an individual has felt himself absolved from the high obligations which honor and duty impose on one situated as he was." It was under this veil, which he supposed to be for ever impenetrable, that Mr. Calhoun came forward and denounced those measures which he knew were not only impliedly, but positively authorized by the President himself. He proposed to take preparatory steps for the punishment of General Jackson, whose "*honest and patriotic motives he never doubted*," for the violation of orders which he admits were "*honestly executed*." That he expected to succeed with his proposition so long as there was a particle of honor, honesty, or prudence left to President Monroe, is not to be imagined. The movement was intended for some future contingency, which perhaps Mr. Calhoun himself only can certainly explain.

The shape in which this proposition was made is variously stated. Mr. Calhoun, in the printed correspondence, page 15, says: "I was of the impression that you had exceeded your orders, and acted on your own responsibility, but I neither questioned your patriotism nor your motives. Believing that where orders were transcended, investigation as a matter of course ought to follow, as due in justice to the government and the officer, unless there be strong reasons to the contrary, I came to the [cabinet] meeting under the impression that the usual course ought to be pursued in this case, which I supported by presenting fully and freely all the arguments that occurred to me."

Mr. Crawford, in his letter to Mr. Forsyth, published in the same correspondence, page 9, says: "Mr. Calhoun's proposition in the cabinet was, that General Jackson should be punished in some form, or reprehended in some form, I am not positively certain which."

Mr. Adams, in a letter to Mr. Crawford, dated 30th July, 1830, says: "The main point upon which it was urged that General Jackson should be

brought to trial, was, that he had violated his orders by taking St. Marks and Pensacola."

Mr. Crowninshield, in a letter to Mr. Crawford, dated 25th July, 1830, says: "I remember too, that Mr. Calhoun was severe upon the conduct of General Jackson, but the words particularly spoken have slipped my memory."

From the united testimony it appears that Mr. Calhoun made a proposition for a court of inquiry upon the conduct of General Jackson, upon the charge of having violated his orders in taking St. Marks and Pensacola, with a view to his ultimate trial and punishment, and that he was severe in his remarks upon that conduct. But the President would listen to no such proposition. Mr. Crawford, in his letter to Mr. Calhoun, dated 2d October, 1830, says: "You remembered the excitement which your proposition produced in the mind and on the feelings of the President, and did not dare to ask him any question tending to revive his recollection of that proposition." This excitement was very natural. Hearing the very member of his cabinet whom he had consulted upon the subject of General Jackson's confidential letter, and who had advised the answer which had approved beforehand the capture of St. Marks and Pensacola, and who on the 8th September, 1818, wrote to General Jackson, that "St. Marks will be retained till Spain shall be ready to garrison it with a sufficient force, and Fort Gadsden, and any other position in East or West Florida within the Indian country, which may be deemed eligible, will be retained so long as there is any danger, which, it is hoped, will afford the desired security," make a proposition which went to stamp his character with treachery, by the punishment of General Jackson for those very acts, it was impossible that Mr. Monroe should not be excited. He must have been more than human, or less, to have beheld Mr. Calhoun uttering violent philippics against General Jackson for those acts, without the strongest emotion.

Mr. Calhoun's proposition was rejected, as he knew it would be, and he came from behind the veil of cabinet secrecy all smiles and professions of regard and friendship for General Jackson! It was then that by his deceitful conversations he induced Colonel Hayne and others to inform General Jackson, that so far from thinking that he had violated his orders and ought to be punished, he disapproved and only nominally supported the more friendly decision of the cabinet, and thought with him altogether! There was no half-way feeling in *his* friendship! So complete and entire was the deception, that while General Jackson was passing through Virginia the next winter on his way to Washington, he toasted "*John C. Calhoun*," as "*an honest man, the noblest work of God*." Who can paint the workings of the guilty Calhoun's soul when he read that toast!!

But Mr. Calhoun was not content with the attack made by him upon General Jackson's character and fame in the dark recesses of Mr. Monroe's cabinet. At the next session of Congress the same subject was taken in hand in both houses. Mr. Cobb came forward with his resolutions of cen-

sure in the House of Representatives, where, after a long discussion, the assailants were signally defeated. Mr. Lacock headed a committee in the Senate which was engaged in the affair from the 18th December, 1818, to the 24th February, 1819, when they made a report full of bitterness against General Jackson. It charged him with a violation of the laws and constitution of his country; disobedience of orders; disregard of the principles of humanity, and almost every crime which a military man can commit.

It was not suspected at the time that this report owed any of its bitterness to Mr. Calhoun, yet that such was the fact is now susceptible of the strongest proof!

While the attacks upon General Jackson were in progress in Congress his presence in the city was thought to be necessary by his friends. Colonel Robert Butler, then in Washington, wrote to him to that effect. A few days afterwards Mr. Calhoun accosted him, and asked him in an abrupt manner why he had written to General Jackson to come to the city. Colonel Butler answered, "that he might see that justice was done him in person." Mr. Calhoun turned from him without speaking another word with an air of anger and vexation which made an indelible impression on the colonel's mind. It was obvious enough that he did not desire, but rather feared General Jackson's presence in the city. Colonel Butler's letter to General Jackson, dated the 9th June, 1831, is in these words:

"When in Washington in the winter of 1818–'19, finding the course which Congress appeared to be taking on the Seminole question, I wrote you that I esteemed it necessary that you should be present at Washington. Having done so, I communicated this fact to our friend Bronaugh, who held the then Secretary of War in high estimation. The succeeding evening, while at the French Minister's, he came to me and inquired in a tone somewhat abrupt, what could induce me to write for General Jackson to come to the city—(Bronaugh having informed him that I had done so)—to which I replied, perhaps as sternly, '*that he may in person have justice done him*.' The Secretary turned on his heel, and so ended the conversation; but there was a something inexplicable in the countenance that subsequent events have given meaning to. After your arrival at Washington, we were on a visit at the Secretary's, and examining a map—(the Yellow Stone expedition of the Secretary's being the subject of conversation)—Mr. Lacock, of the Senate, was announced to the Secretary, who remarked—'Do not let him come in now, General Jackson is here, but will soon be gone, when I can see him.' There was nothing strange in all this; but the whispered manner and apparent agitation fastened on my mind the idea that Mr. Calhoun and Lacock understood each other on the Seminole matter. Such were my impressions at the time."

On my arrival, however, in January, 1819, Mr. Calhoun treated me with marked kindness. The latter part of Colonel Butler's letter, as to Mr. Lacock, is confirmed by my own recollection that one day when Mr. Calhoun and myself were together in the War Department, the messenger

announced Mr. Lacock at the door: Mr. Calhoun, in a hurried manner, pronounced the name of General Jackson, and Mr. Lacock did not come in. This circumstance indicated an intimacy between them, but I inferred nothing from it unfavorable to Mr. Calhoun.

In speaking of my confidential letter to Mr. Monroe (printed correspondence, page 19), Mr. Calhoun states, that after reading it when received, "I thought no more of it. Long after, I think it was at the commencement of the next session of Congress, I heard some allusion which brought that letter to my recollection. It was from a quarter which induced me to believe that it came from Mr. Crawford. I called and mentioned it to Mr. Monroe, and found that he had entirely forgotten the letter. After searching some time he found it among some other papers, and read it, as he told me, for the first time."

The particular "*quarter*" whence the "*allusion*" which called up the recollection of this confidential letter came, Mr. Calhoun has not thought proper to state. Probably it was Mr. Lacock, who was the friend of Mr. Crawford. Probably he applied to Mr. Calhoun for information, and Mr. Calhoun went to the President, and requested a sight of that letter that he might communicate its contents to Mr. Lacock. Mr. Lacock was appointed upon the committee on the Seminole war, on the 18th December. On the 21st of that month the recollection of the confidential letter was first in the mind of Mr. Monroe, for on that day, in a letter to General Jackson, he gives an account of its reception, and the disposition made of it. Probably, therefore, it was about the time that Mr. Lacock undertook the investigation of this affair in the Senate, and that it was for his information that Mr. Calhoun called on Mr. Monroe to inquire about this letter.

Nay, it is *certain* that the existence and contents of this letter *were* about that time *communicated to Mr. Lacock: that he conversed freely and repeatedly with Mr. Calhoun upon the whole subject: that he was informed of all that had passed: the views of the President, of Mr. Calhoun, and the cabinet, and that Mr. Calhoun coincided with Mr. Lacock in all his views*.

These facts are stated *upon the authority of Mr. Lacock himself*.[3]

The motives of these secret communications to Mr. Lacock by Mr. Calhoun cannot be mistaken. By communicating the contents of the confidential letter, and withholding the fact that an approving answer had been returned, he wished to impress Mr. Lacock with the belief that General Jackson had predetermined before he entered Florida, to seize the Spanish posts, right or wrong, with orders or without. Acting under this impression, he would be prepared to discredit and disbelieve all General Jackson's explanations and defences, and put the worst construction upon every circumstance disclosed in the investigation. By this perfidy General Jackson was deprived of all opportunity to make an effectual defence. To him Mr. Calhoun was all smiles and kindness. He believed him his friend, seeking by all proper means, in public and private, to shield him from the

attacks of his enemies. Having implicit confidence in Mr. Calhoun and the President, he would sooner have endured the tortures of the inquisition than have disclosed their answer to his letter through Mr. Rhea. The tie which he felt, Mr. Calhoun felt not. He did not scruple to use one side of a correspondence to destroy a man, his friend, who confided in him with the faith and affection of a brother—when he knew that man felt bound by obligations from which no considerations short of a knowledge of his own perfidy could absolve him, to hold the other side in eternal silence. General Jackson had no objection to a disclosure of the whole correspondence. There was nothing in it of which he was ashamed, or which on his own account be wished to conceal. Public policy made it inexpedient that the world should know at that time how far the government had approved beforehand of his proceedings. But had he known that Mr. Calhoun was attempting to destroy him by secretly using one side of the correspondence, he would have been justified by the laws of self-defence in making known the other. He saw not, heard not, imagined not, that means so perfidious and dishonorable were in use to destroy him. It never entered his confiding heart that the hand he shook with the cordiality of a warm friend was secretly pointing out to his enemies the path by which they might ambuscade and destroy him. He was incapable of conceiving that the honeyed tongue, which to him spake nothing but kindness, was secretly conveying poison into the ears of Mr. Lacock, and other members of Congress. It could not enter his mind that his confidential letters, the secrets of the cabinet, and the opinions of its members, were all secretly arrayed against him by the friend in whom he implicitly confided, misinterpreted and distorted, without giving him an opportunity for self-defence or explanation.

Mr. Calhoun's object was accomplished. Mr. Lacock made a report far transcending in bitterness any thing which even in the opinion of General Jackson's enemies the evidence seemed to justify. This extraordinary and unaccountable severity is now explained. It proceeded from the secret and perfidious representations of Mr. Calhoun, based on General Jackson's confidential letter. Mr. Lacock ought to be partially excused, and stand before the world comparatively justified. For most of the injustice done by his report to the soldier who had risked all for his country, Mr. Calhoun *is the responsible man*.

As dark as this transaction is, a shade is yet to be added. It was not enough that General Jackson had been deceived and betrayed by a professing friend; that the contents of his confidential correspondence had been secretly communicated to his open enemies, while all information of the reply was withheld: it was not enough that an official report overflowing with bitterness had gone out to the world to blast his fame, which must stand for ever recorded in the history of his country. Lest some accident might expose the evidences of the understanding under which he acted, and the duplicity of his secret accuser, means must be taken to procure

the destruction of the answer to the confidential letter through Mr. Rhea. They were these. About the time Mr. Lacock made his report General Jackson and Mr. Rhea were both in the city of Washington. Mr. Rhea called on General Jackson, as he said, at the request of Mr. Monroe, and begged him on his return home to burn his reply. He said the President feared that by the death of General Jackson, or some other accident, it might fall into the hands of those who would make an improper use of it. He therefore conjured him by the friendship which had always existed between them (and by his obligations as a brother mason) to destroy it on his return to Nashville. Believing Mr. Monroe and Mr. Calhoun to be his devoted friends, and not deeming it *possible* that any incident could occur which would require or justify its use, he gave Mr. Rhea the promise he solicited, and accordingly after his return to Nashville he burnt Mr. Rhea's letter, and on his letter-book opposite the copy of his confidential letter to Mr. Monroe made this entry:—

"*Mr. Rhea's letter in answer is burnt this 12th April, 1819.*"

Mr. Calhoun's management was thus far completely triumphant. He had secretly assailed General Jackson in cabinet council, and caused it to be publicly announced that he was his friend. While the confiding soldier was toasting him as "an honest man, the noblest work of God," he was betraying his confidential correspondence to his enemy, and laying the basis of a document which was intended to blast his fame and ruin his character in the estimation of his countrymen. Lest accident should bring the truth to light, and expose his duplicity, he procures through the President and Mr. Rhea the destruction of the approving answer to the confidential letter. Mr. Rhea was an old man and General Jackson's health feeble. In a few years all who were supposed to have any knowledge of the reply would be in their graves. Every trace of the approval given beforehand by the government to the operations of General Jackson would soon be obliterated, and the undivided responsibility would forever rest on his head. At least, should accident or policy bring to light the duplicity of Mr. Calhoun, he might deny all knowledge of this reply, and challenge its production. He might defend his course in the cabinet and extenuate his disclosures to Mr. Lacock, by maintaining before the public that he had always believed General Jackson violated his orders and ought to have been punished. At the worst, the written reply if once destroyed could never be recalled from the flames; and should General Jackson still be living, his assertion might not be considered more conclusive than Mr. Calhoun's denial. In any view it was desirable to him that this letter should be destroyed, and through his management, as is verily believed, it was destroyed.

Happily however for the truth of history and the cause of public justice, the writer of the reply is still alive; and from a journal kept at the time, is able to give an accurate account of this transaction. He testifies directly to the writing of the letter, to its contents, and the means taken to secure its

destruction. Judge Overton, to whom the letter was confidentially shown, testifies directly to the existence of the letter, and to the fact that General Jackson afterwards told him it was destroyed.

These, with the statement of General Jackson himself, and the entry in his letter-book which was seen by several persons many years ago, fix these facts beyond a doubt.

Certainly the history of the world scarcely presents a parallel to this transaction. It has been seen with what severity Mr. Calhoun denounced Mr. Crawford for revealing the secret proceedings of the cabinet: with what justice may a retort of tenfold severity be made upon him, when he not only reveals to Mr. Lacock the proceedings of the cabinet, but the confidential letter of a confiding friend, not for the benefit of that friend, but through misrepresentation of the transaction and concealment of the reply, to aid his enemies in accomplishing his destruction. It was doubtless expected that Mr. Lacock would produce a document which would overwhelm General Jackson and destroy him in public estimation. In that event the proceedings of the cabinet would no longer have been held sacred. The erroneous impression made on the public mind would have been corrected, and the world have been informed that Mr. Calhoun not only disapproved the acts of General Jackson, but had in the cabinet attempted in vain to procure his punishment. As the matter stood, the responsibility of attacking the General rested on Mr. Crawford, and had the decision of the people been different, the responsibility of *defending* him would have been thrown exclusively upon Mr. Adams, and Mr. Calhoun would have claimed the merit of the attack. But until the public should decide, it was not prudent to lose the friendship of General Jackson, which might be of more service to Mr. Calhoun than the truth. It was thus at the sacrifice of every principle of honor and friendship that Mr. Calhoun managed to throw all responsibility on his political rivals, and profit by the result of these movements whatever it might be. It cannot be doubted, however, that Mr. Calhoun expected the entire prostration of General Jackson, and managed to procure the destruction of Mr. Rhea's letter, for the purpose of disarming the friend he had betrayed, that he might, with impunity when the public should have pronounced a sentence of condemnation, have come forward and claimed the merit of having been the first to denounce him.

The people however sustained General Jackson against the attacks of all his enemies, public and private, open and secret, and therefore it became convenient for Mr. Calhoun to retain his mask, to appear as the friend of one whom the people had pronounced their friend, and to let Mr. Crawford bear the unjust imputation of having assailed him in the cabinet.

It must be confessed that the mask was worn with consummate skill. Mr. Calhoun was understood by all of General Jackson's friends to be his warm and able defender. When, in 1824, Mr. Calhoun was withdrawn

from the lists as a candidate for the Presidency, the impression made on the friends of General Jackson was that he did it to favor the election of their favorite, when it is believed to be susceptible of proof that he secretly flattered the friends of Mr. Adams with the idea that he was with them. It is certain that for the Vice-Presidency he continued to secure nearly all the Adams votes, most of the Jackson votes, and even half of the Clay votes in Kentucky. But never did the friends of General Jackson doubt his devotion to their cause in that contest, until the publication of his correspondence with General Jackson. In a note, page 7, he undeceives them by saying:

"When my name was withdrawn from the list of presidential candidates, I assumed a perfectly neutral position between General Jackson and Mr. Adams. I was decidedly opposed to a congressional caucus, as both those gentlemen were also, and as I bore very friendly personal and political relations to both, I would have been well satisfied with the election of either."

I have now given a faithful detail of the circumstances and facts which transpired touching my movements in Florida, during the Seminole campaign.

When Mr. Calhoun was secretly misinterpreting my views and conduct through Mr. Speer to the citizens of South Carolina, I had extended to him my fullest confidence, inasmuch as I consulted him as if he were one of my cabinet, showed him the written rules by which my administration was to be governed, which he apparently approved, received from him the strongest professions of friendship, so much so that I would have scorned even a suggestion that he was capable of such unworthy conduct.

ANDREW JACKSON.

Printed, Thomas Hart Benton, *Thirty Years' View; or, A History of the Working of the American Government for Thirty Years, from 1820 to 1850* (New York, 1854), 1:168–80 (mAJs). Several obvious typographical errors have been silently corrected.

1. *Jackson Papers*, 4:257–58. The quoted passage, printed in Calhoun's February 17 publication, was in a draft of Monroe's letter but not in the actual letter sent to AJ.

2. Benton printed this paragraph as a footnote, in small type below the main text.

3. AJ's phrasing here closely followed Henry Baldwin's October 18 report of his conversation with Lacock (above). Lacock wrote AJ contradicting it on June 25, 1832.

Calendar, 1831



Jan 1	*To Mary Ann Eastin.*	*3*
Jan 1	From John Coffee. ALS, DLC (38). Explains that his funds as surveyor of public lands in Alabama are all properly accounted for as his four-year term concludes.	
Jan 1	From Samuel Moore. ALSs, DNA-RG 46 and DNA-RG 233; ALS copy, DNA-RG 104 (17-0125). *HRDoc* 46, 21st Cong., 2d sess., pp. 1–2 (Serial 207). Submits the annual report of the U.S. Mint.	
[cJan 1]	From Jeremiah Orme et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-3). Recommend Joel Brown for justice of the peace in Georgetown, D.C. Appointed by AJ Jan 4.	
Jan 2	*To Sarah Glen Davis Bland.*	*6*
Jan 3	To the United States Congress. DSs, DNA-RG 46 and DNA-RG 233; LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-0168). *SDoc* 20, 21st Cong., 2d sess., pp. 1–2 (Serial 203); Richardson, 2:532–33. Transmits and explains the record of the British West Indian trade negotiations.	
Jan 3	To the United States Senate. DS, KHi (17-0185). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:141; Richardson, 2:532. Transmits two letters on the Choctaw removal treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek.	
Jan 3	From Chauncey Forward. Abstract, *Catalogue of the Autograph Collection of the University of Rochester* (1940), p. 58 (mAJs). Recommends Luther Thomas for naval chaplain. Referred by AJ to Branch.	
Jan 3	*From Samuel Jackson Hays.*	*6*
Jan 3	From Michael Ledwith. Copy, DNA-RG 46 (17-0164). Complains of Florida governor William P. Duval's refusal to pay his brother Thomas Ledwith's salary as Seminole agency blacksmith.	
Jan 3	Pardon for mail robber John Amonheizer. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-0136; T967-1).	
Jan 3	Check to Andrew Jackson Jr. for $310. DS, DLC (38).	
Jan 4	*To John Rhea.*	*8*
Jan 4	From Henry Bregaw Brevoort. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Discusses the Indian agency at Sault Ste. Marie.	
Jan 4	From John Henry Eaton. DS, DNA-RG 233 (17-0190). LC, DNA-RG 107 (M127-2). *HRDoc* 30, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 1 (Serial 206). Submits a report tabulating past and projected federal internal improvement expenditures.	
Jan 4	*From James Guild.*	*11*

Jan 4 Andrew Jackson Donelson to James Buchanan. ALS, PHi (17-0187). Encloses AJ's response to a disappointed Pennsylvania office-seeker.

Jan 5 To the United States House of Representatives. DS, DNA-RG 233 (17-0206). *HRDoc* 30, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 1 (Serial 206); Richardson, 2:533. Transmits War and Treasury Department reports itemizing past and projected federal internal improvement expenditures.

Jan 5 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0208). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:143–44. Nominates Illinois land officers.

[Jan 5] From Abraham Bellamy et al. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0202). *TPUS*, 24:478–79. Urge William P. Duval's reappointment as governor of Florida Territory.

Jan 5 From Abraham Bellamy. ALS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0198). *TPUS*, 24:476. Encloses two petitions urging reappointment of Florida governor William P. Duval.

Jan 5 From John Branch. LS, DNA-RG 233 (17-0205). LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). *HRDoc* 33, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 1 (Serial 207). Submits a report by fourth auditor Amos Kendall describing defects in Navy Department accounting and proposing reforms.

Jan 5 From Jehiel Brooks. Copy, DCU (mAJs). Complains that appropriations to clear obstructions from the Red River in Louisiana are being misspent on trying to make a new channel instead.

Jan 5 From Peter Frederic William De Koster. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-6). Asks to be appointed Thomas Appleton's successor as consul at Leghorn, Italy.

Jan 5 *From John Randolph.* *12*

Jan 5 From Waters Smith. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-22). Asks to be reappointed marshal in Florida.

Jan 5 Check for $166. DS, DLC (38).

Jan 6 From William Hunter. ALS, IaDaPM (17-0237). Solicits a pardon for Alfred Knight, a Russian convicted of manslaughter on the high seas. Approved by AJ Jan 10.

[Jan 6] Check to Michael Anthony Giusta for $80. DS, DLC (60; 17-0210).

Jan 6 Check for $1030, for Michael A. Giusta's account and musicians. DS, DLC (38).

Jan 7 To Martin Van Buren. AN, DNA-RG 59 (M179-70). Asks for Joel Brown's nomination to be justice of the peace in Washington, D.C.

Jan 7 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0215). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:143. Nominates Joel Brown for justice of the peace in Washington, D.C.

Jan 7 To the United States House of Representatives. DS, DNA-RG 233 (17-0213). *HRDoc* 33, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 1 (Serial 207); Richardson, 2:533. Transmits the report on Navy Department accounting and recommends corrective legislation.

Jan 7 From James Hamilton Jr. LS, DNA-RG 107 (M221-111). Supports Captain Francis S. Belton's claim to double rations as

commander of the Charleston arsenal. Referred by AJ to Eaton, and approved effective Jan 23.

Jan 7 *From Arthur Peronneau Hayne.* *16*

Jan 7 From Josiah Nichol & Son. D, DLC (40). Statement of account. Runs to Sep 29.

Jan 7 From Alexander Thomson. ALS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0211). Recommends Thomas Irwin for district judge in Pennsylvania.

Jan 7 From Martin Van Buren. DSs, DNA-RG 46 and DNA-RG 233; LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-0217). Submits and endorses a report by superintendent John D. Craig recommending reforms in the Patent Office.

Jan 8 From William McCarrick. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Recommends David McClellan and William Scott for Indian subagents.

Jan 8 From George Talcott. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Responds to charges preferred against him by sutler Robert McClellan.

Jan 8 Commission for chargé d'affaires Henry Wheaton to receive payments from Denmark under the claims convention of 1830. LC, DNA-RG 59; Draft, DLC; Copy, DNA-RG 84 (17-0224).

Jan 8 Joseph White to Samuel Smith. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-70). Submits to AJ Ann Maria Rodgers Pinkney's claim for $4,500 promised to her late husband William Pinkney for his outfit as minister to Britain. Endorsed by AJ that he cannot pay the claim without action by Congress, as "he has no right to Legislate, and there is no law allowing it, or appropriation, out of which it can be paid."

Jan 9 From James Gray Read. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-6). Recommends John De Pauw for secretary of proposed Huron Territory.

[Jan 10] From Henry Baldwin et al. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (M639-11). Recommend Horatio Hubbell for consul at Constantinople.

Jan 11 To the United States Congress. DSs, DNA-RG 46 and DNA-RG 233 (17-0239). *Senate Journal*, 21st Cong., 2d sess., pp. 85–86 (Serial 202); Richardson, 2:533. Transmits the report on the Patent Office.

Jan 11 From William Bainbridge et al. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0229). Commend dismissed Navy lieutenant Edmund Byrne.

Jan 11 *From Big Kettle, Seneca White, and Thomson S. Harris.* *18*

Jan 11 From Josiah Nichol. Envelope with AJ ANS endorsement, DLC (38). Sends AJ's account for Hermitage farm expenses and for 59 bales of cotton shipped to New Orleans on Jan 8.

Jan 11 Pardon, remission of fine, and release from prison for Alfred Knight, a Russian convicted of manslaughter on the high seas. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-0236; T967-1).

Jan 12 *To John Henry Eaton.* *19*

Jan 12 To the United States Congress. DSs, DNA-RG 46 and DNA-RG 233 (17-0248). *HRDoc* 46, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 1 (Serial 207). Transmits the annual report of the U.S. Mint for 1830.

Jan 12 From James Collinsworth. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (17-0554). States

that pardon applicant William W. Wilcher, sentenced to ten years for purloining from the mail, is a contrite youth of respectable family.

Jan 12 From Madison Fletcher. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M688-60). Asks to be appointed cadet at West Point.

Jan 12 From Nicholas I, Emperor of Russia. LS and Copy, DNA-RG 59 (17-0243). Copy, DNA-RG 59 (M39-2). Commends recalled American minister Henry Middleton.

Jan 12 From David Hunter Strother. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Applies for a West Point cadetship.

Jan 13 From John Branch. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits naval chaplain Walter Colton's commission for signature.

Jan 13 William Berkeley Lewis to James Buchanan. ALS, Stanley F. Horn (17-0252). Asks if George B. Porter would accept appointment as marshal in Pennsylvania.

Jan 14 From John Branch. LS, DNA-RG 233 (17-0255). LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). LC, DNA-RG 45 (M205-1). *HRDoc* 54, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 1 (Serial 208). Submits a report requesting legislation to provide for slaves who were aboard the captured Spanish pirate schooner *Fenix*.

Jan 14 *From George Washington Campbell.* *20*

Jan 14 From Henry Williams. D, DNA-RG 59 (17-0378). Convicted gambling-house keeper prays remission of his fine and release from prison. Approved by AJ Jan 27.

Jan 14 Daniel Kellogg to Martin Van Buren. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (17-0355). Recommends releasing imprisoned smuggler Christopher H. Stearns. Approved by AJ Jan 25.

Jan 15 To John DeRossett Toomer et al. Printed, Fayetteville *Carolina Observer*, Feb 3, 1831 (mAJs). *US Telegraph*, Mar 3, 1831 (17-0265). Gratefully acknowledges an invitation to visit Fayetteville, N.C.

Jan 15 To the United States House of Representatives. DS, DNA-RG 233 (17-0266). *HRDoc* 54, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 1 (Serial 208); Richardson, 2:534. Transmits the report on the captured Spanish pirate *Fenix* and recommends legislation to provide for the slaves aboard.

Jan 15 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0268). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:146. Nominates Robert M. Harrison for consul at Kingston, Jamaica.

Jan 15 From John Branch. LS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0257). LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits a report on measures to preserve live oak timber stands on federal lands.

Jan 15 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0270). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:147; Richardson, 2:534. Transmits the report on live oak timber reserves.

Jan 15 From David Craighead et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (17-0557). Request a pardon for mail thief William W. Wilcher on grounds of his youth, poverty, and previous good character. Concurring note by John McLean. Granted by AJ Feb 15.

Jan 15 *From Auguste Genevieve Valentin Davezac.* *24*

Jan 15 From William H. Ellis et al. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-5). Recommend George Coxall for consul at St. Bartholomew Island.

[Jan 15] From Robert Ralston et al. DS and Copy, DNA-RG 59 (M639-11). Recommend Horatio Hubbell for consul at Constantinople.

Jan 15 *From Martin Van Buren.* *27*

Jan 15 Receipted tailor's bill from Tucker & Thompson. DS, DLC (39). Runs to Jun 4.

Jan 15 Andrew Jackson Donelson to Martin Van Buren. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-15). Encloses J. Ponte Coulant McMahon's application to be bearer of dispatches.

Jan 16 *To John Overton.* *27*

Jan 16 Xavier de Medina to Martin Van Buren. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-70). Consul general of Colombia calls attention to a letter from former president Joaquín Mosquera to appear in the Jan 19 *New-York Daily Advertiser* vindicating Simón Bolívar's motives in calling the 1826 Panama Congress of American republics. Endorsed by AJ.

Jan 17 *To John Branch.* *28*

Jan 17 *From William Pitt Preble.* *29*

[Jan 18] To Edward Everett. N, MHi (17-0283). Invitation to dinner.

Jan 18 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0284). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:145–46. Nominates Joseph Sands for customs collector at Annapolis, Md.

Jan 18 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0286). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:146. Nominates Benjamin J. Harrison for customs surveyor at Louisville, Ky.

Jan 18 From John Branch. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Explains the Navy Department's refusal to honor Andrew Armstrong's draft, drawn well after his agency at Lima had expired.

Jan 18 From John Henry Eaton. ALS, DLC (73). Explains his order to continue paying Army officers sentenced to be dismissed up to their actual day of dismissal.

Jan 19 From Elijah Hayward. LS, THi (17-0295). LC, DNA-RG 49 (M25-26). Approves John Coffee's handling of his funds as surveyor of Alabama public lands and directs him not to use cash on hand for salary, which comes from a separate fund.

Jan 19 *To John Coffee.* *30*

Jan 19 *To the Marquis de Lafayette.* *31*

Jan 19 From Abraham Bellamy. ALS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0288). Conveys a resolution of the Florida legislative council urging William P. Duval's reappointment as governor.

Jan 19 From Henry Williams Dwight. AN, MB (17-0294). Encloses a plea from David D. Field for his son Timothy B. Field's reinstatement as a Navy midshipman.

Jan 19 From William Cabell Rives. Abstract, DLC (17-0301; mAJs). Thanks AJ for his approval and applauds the wisdom and candor of his annual messages.

Jan 20 *To Emily Tennessee Donelson.* *33*

Jan 20 From John Branch. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Explains that

remittances have been suspended to Pensacola navy agent Charles P. Tutt because of his large and unexplained expenditures, and not from motives of hostility.

Jan 20 From Geisse & Korckhauss et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-3). Recommend Emilius F. Brasier for consul at Vera Cruz.

Jan 20 From John W. Quinney et al. DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-315). Copies, DNA-RG 46 (17-0308). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 396–99 (Serial 245). New York Indians propose to settle their Michigan Territory land dispute with the Menominees for 858,000 acres on both sides of Fox River, to be partitioned among their constituent tribes.

Jan 21 From Ephraim Banks et al. LS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0325). Pennsylvania legislators recommend reinstating dismissed Navy lieutenant Edmund Byrne.

Jan 21 From Alexander H. Smith. ALS, THer (17-0328). Begs for a loan of $60.

Jan 22 From Samuel B. Davis et al. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0331). Pennsylvania legislators recommend reinstating Navy lieutenant Edmund Byrne.

Jan 22 From Samuel B. Davis et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-3). Recommend Emilius F. Brasier for consul at Vera Cruz.

Jan 22 From John Henry Eaton. ALS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0333). *SDoc* 39, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 1 (Serial 203). Submits a report on the British and American northwestern fur trades.

Jan 22 From John Gilmore. ALS, DNA-RG 92 (17-0334). Encloses Robert Lindell's application to be Army quartermaster at Pittsburgh in place of Alexander Johnston.

Jan 22 From John McKim. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-126). Complains that Captain William H. Freeman, Marine commander at the Charlestown, Mass., navy yard, has abused McKim and other noncommissioned officers by usurping their offices and perquisites. Referred by AJ to Branch for inquiry.

[Jan 22] From John McKim. ADS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-126). Petitions to be restored to his duties as Marine paymaster and quartermaster at Charlestown, Mass.

Jan 22 Thomas Swann to Martin Van Buren. ALS, DCHi (mAJs). Reports that D.C. marshal Tench Ringgold's accounts appear to be in proper order, and that his contest with the levy court over payment for jail repairs has been resolved. Endorsed by AJ.

Jan 23 *From Daniel W. Wright.* *35*

Jan 24 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0344). *SDoc* 39, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 1 (Serial 203); Richardson, 2:534. Transmits the report on the Northwestern fur trade.

Jan 24 From Henry Ashton. ALS, DNA-RG 233 (17-0341). *HRDoc* 66, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 1 (Serial 208). Submits the annual report of the District of Columbia penitentiary inspectors.

Jan 24 From Charles Bell et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommend Henry Ashton for marshal of the District of Columbia.

Jan 24 From Robert Brackenridge. ALS and Copy, DNA-RG 75 (M234-354). Attests to the good character and reputation of Dr. Lewis G. Thompson.

Jan 24 From John Branch. LS, DNA-RG 233 (17-0342). LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). *HRDoc* 67, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 1 (Serial 208). Points out the unsettled legal basis of Marine Corps pay and allowances and urges legislation to fix them at a fair rate.

Jan 24 From Thomas Carbery et al. DSs, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommend Henry Ashton for District of Columbia marshal in place of Tench Ringgold. Endorsed by AJ noting Mr. Williams's complaint against Ringgold.

Jan 25 *To [John Branch].* *37*

Jan 25 *Decision concerning Timothy Beals Field.* *37*

Jan 25 To the United States House of Representatives. DS, DNA-RG 233 (17-0360). *HRDoc* 67, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 1 (Serial 208); Richardson, 2:534. Transmits and endorses Branch's request for legislation regularizing Marine Corps pay and allowances.

Jan 25 To the United States House of Representatives. DS, DNA-RG 233 (17-0362). *HRDoc* 66, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 1 (Serial 208). Transmits the annual report of the District of Columbia penitentiary inspectors.

Jan 25 From John Branch. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits nominations of naval and Marine officers.

Jan 25 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0364). LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:146. Nominates naval and Marine officers.

Jan 25 From Abraham Cargill et al. Copy, CU-BANC (17-0347). New York legislators recommend Peter W. Spicer for office. Walter Bowne and Richard Riker concur.

Jan 25 From William Dewees et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommend Henry Ashton for District of Columbia marshal in place of Tench Ringgold.

Jan 25 From John Floyd (of Georgia). LC, DLC (mAJs). Urges reinstating Isaiah Doane, unjustly removed from command of the revenue cutter *Marion*.

Jan 25 From Lucas Osterhout. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Applies for an Army pension, bounty land, and pay.

Jan 25 From Daniel Sturgeon and Samuel Douglas. LS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0358). Recommend Thomas Irwin for district judge in Pennsylvania.

Jan 25 Remission of penalty and release from prison for smuggler Christopher H. Stearns. DS, N (17-0348). LC, DNA-RG 59 (T967-1).

[cJan 26] To John McLeod. AN, NjP (mAJs). In response to an appeal in the Jan 26 *Globe*, donates to the Washington Relief Society to aid needy emigrants in town.

Jan 26 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46; Draft, DNA-RG 59 (17-0366). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:146–47;

Richardson, 2:534–35. Requests authority to exchange ratifications of the 1829 Austrian commercial treaty beyond the expired deadline.

Jan 26 From Richard S. Briscoe et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommend Henry Ashton for District of Columbia marshal.

Jan 26 From James Dunlop et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommend Henry Ashton for District of Columbia marshal.

Jan 26 From John Floyd. LC, Vi (mAJs). Presents Virginia's claim against the U.S. for a further reimbursement of Revolutionary War expenses, charging the state has been shortchanged.

Jan 26 From Greenbury Gaither et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommend Henry Ashton for District of Columbia marshal.

Jan 26 From F. Jefferson et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommend Henry Ashton for District of Columbia marshal.

Jan 26 From Amos Kendall. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommends Henry Ashton for District of Columbia marshal.

Jan 26 From Francis Scott Key. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommends Henry Ashton for District of Columbia marshal.

[cJan 26] From Alexander Porter. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Asks to be appointed cadet at West Point.

Jan 26 From Peleg Sprague. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (17-0886). Encloses an appeal from Rufus Sewall to pardon smuggler Moses M. Gove. Endorsed favorably to AJ by Daniel Brent.

Jan 26 *From Charles Henry Waring Wharton.* *38*

Jan 26 From Thomas Young et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommend Henry Ashton for District of Columbia marshal.

Jan 26 *L. N. Fields to Dixon Hall Lewis.* *39*

Jan 27 To Lewis Slate Coryell. N, PHi (17-0370). Invitation to dinner on Feb 1.

Jan 27 From Daniel Martin. LS, DNA-RG 107 (M222-30). LC, MdAA (17-0372). Transmits the Maryland legislature's request for a federal survey for a coastal waterway along the Delmarva peninsula.

Jan 27 From George Clark Smoot. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommends *"Jackson man"* Henry Ashton for District of Columbia marshal in place of Adamsite Tench Ringgold.

Jan 28 From Henry Forrest et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommend Henry Ashton for District of Columbia marshal.

Jan 28 *From Peter A. Hall.* *41*

Jan 28 From John Test. ALS, DNA-RG 75 (17-0373). Resubmits Rebecca Burnett's request for presidential consent to sell land granted her in the Potawatomi treaty of 1826. Referred by AJ to GLO commissioner Hayward for report.

Jan 28 From Lewis Garret Thompson. ALS and Copy, DNA-RG 75 (M234-354). *The John Tipton Papers* (Indianapolis, 1942), 2:389–92. Charges Miami Indian agent John Tipton with fraud and corruption. Referred by AJ to Eaton for investigation.

Jan 28 From Lewis Garret Thompson. ALS and Copy, DNA-RG 75 (M234-354). *The John Tipton Papers*, 2:388–89. Asks an investigation of his charges against John Tipton.

Jan 28 Levi Reynolds to Samuel Delucenna Ingham. ALS, DLC (73). Recommends William W. Potter for district judge in Pennsylvania. Endorsed by AJ.

Jan 29 From William L. Bailey et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommend Henry Ashton for District of Columbia marshal.

Jan 29 From Alexander Provest et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommend Henry Ashton for District of Columbia marshal.

Jan 29 From Charles Henry Waring Wharton. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-27). Introduces and commends Mr. Williams, to complain of Tench Ringgold and recommend Henry Ashton.

Jan 29 *From Maunsel White.* *42*

Jan 29 Remission of fine and release from prison on payment of costs for gambling-house keeper Henry Williams. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-0376; T967-1).

Jan 29 Andrew Jackson Donelson to Solomon Gillespie Krepps. Printed, *United States' Telegraph*, Mar 3, 1831 (mAJs). *Niles*, Apr 16 (17-0375). Welcomes a plan by Pennsylvania legislators to invite AJ to stand for reelection.

Jan 31 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0389). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:146. Nominates marshals, judges, and a district attorney.

Jan 31 *To Martin Van Buren.* *43*

Jan 31 From William Taylor Barry. LC, DNA-RG 28 (M601-47). Answers a letter from Samuel Singleton by explaining Post Office procedures for handling unclaimed letters and returning money found therein to the senders.

Jan 31 *From Daniel Hankins et al.* *119*

Jan 31 From Henry Lee Heiskell. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Asks to be appointed assistant Army surgeon.

Jan 31 From James Taylor. ALS, TNJ (17-0384). Recommends Richard Cutts for office.

Jan 31 From James Taylor. ALS, TNJ (17-0385). Recommends his brother-in-law James W. Moss for customs officer at St. Louis.

Jan 31 James Taylor to Andrew Jackson Donelson. ALS, TNJ (17-0387). Recommends James W. Moss and Richard Cutts for office. Endorsed by AJ.

[cJan] To Edmund Anderson. LS, Joseph Maddalena (mAJs). *Profiles in History Autograph Catalog 34* (Fall 2002), p. 32. Thanks him for the gift of a cane cut from a tree on the New Orleans battlefield.

[Jan] *To Martin Van Buren.* *44*

[Jan] From John Caton et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommend Henry Ashton for District of Columbia marshal.

[Jan] From Robert Clarke et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommend Henry Ashton for District of Columbia marshal.

[cJan] From William G. Hawkins. ALS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0106). Recommends Thomas Irwin for Pennsylvania district judge.

[Jan] From Nathaniel B. Kean et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommend Henry Ashton for District of Columbia marshal.

[Jan] From George P. Maxwell. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Retracts

	his endorsement of Tench Ringgold for District of Columbia marshal, and recommends Henry Ashton.	
[cJan]	From John Nicholson Moulder et al. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0108). Recommend William O'Neale for justice of the peace in Washington, D.C.	
Jan	*From Thomas Rigdon et al.*	*46*
[Jan]	From William Stewart et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommend Henry Ashton for District of Columbia marshal.	
[Jan]	From J. P. Thompson et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (17-0561). Request a pardon for mail thief William W. Wilcher, pleading his youth, previous good character, and severity of his ten-year sentence.	
[Jan]	From Thomas J. N. Tippatt et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommend Henry Ashton for District of Columbia marshal.	
[cJan]	Memorandum to order payment of a bill from former Lima, Peru, navy agent Andrew Armstrong, barring evidence that he knew of his removal before drafting it. ANS, DLC (59; 17-0104).	
Feb 1	*To John Henry Eaton and Samuel C. Stambaugh.*	*47*
Feb 1	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0402). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:148. Nominates Ingoldsby W. Crawford for customs collector at New London, Conn.	
Feb 1	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0404). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:150. Nominates John A. Cameron for consul at Vera Cruz.	
Feb 1	From Samuel Delucenna Ingham. LS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0399). *ASP Public Lands*, 6:264. Reports on a dispute between Indiana and the GLO concerning location of lands ceded by the Potawatomies for a road from the Ohio to Lake Michigan, and questions the legality of withholding patents to tracts already sold, which the Senate has requested.	
[cFeb 1]	From John McDonald et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-2). Recommend John Baldwin for consul at Guazacualco, Mexico.	
Feb 1	From Levi Huntington Young. Copies, DNA-RG 84 (17-0406). Requests AJ's aid in pursuing Guilford D. Young's widow's claim against Mexico.	
Feb 1	Temporary commission for Gilbert Dennison as consul at Panama. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (17-0397).	
Feb 1	Check to Andrew Jackson Jr. for $50. DS, DLC (39).	
Feb 1	Lewis Cass to John Henry Eaton. Copy, TNJ (17-0394). Recommends Robert A. Forsyth for office. Endorsed by AJ.	
Feb 2	From Samuel Delucenna Ingham. LS, DNA-RG 233 (17-0411). *HRDoc* 85, 21st Cong., 2d sess., pp. 1–2 (Serial 208). In response to a House resolution, repeats his report of Feb 1 on a dispute between Indiana and the GLO concerning location of lands ceded by the Potawatomies for a road from the Ohio to Lake Michigan.	
Feb 2	Ratification of the May 7, 1830, commercial treaty with Turkey. DS, DNA-RG 11 (17-0414).	
Feb 2	Bill from Tucker & Thompson to Andrew Jackson Jr. for clothing. D, DLC (39). Runs to May 10.	

Feb 2 Bill from Tucker & Thompson to Andrew Jackson Jr. for clothing. DS, DLC (40). Bassett, 4:388. Receipted Dec 22.

Feb 3 *To John Henry Eaton.* *48*

Feb 3 To the United States House of Representatives. DS, DNA-RG 233 (17-0426). *HRDoc* 85, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 1 (Serial 208); Richardson, 2:535. Transmits Ingham's report of Feb 2 on the dispute over locating Potawatomi cession lands for a road in Indiana.

Feb 3 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0428; mAJs). *ASP Public Lands*, 6:263–64; *Senate Journal*, 21st Cong., 2d sess., pp. 126–27 (Serial 202); Richardson, 2:535. Transmits Ingham's report of Feb 1 on Potawatomi cession lands in Indiana, and declines to withhold patents from purchasers.

Feb 3 *From Robert Butler.* *49*

Feb 3 *From James Alexander Hamilton.* *50*

Feb 3 *From John Overton.* *52*

Feb 3 *From Jacob M. Wise et al.* *54*

Feb 3 Temporary commission for Robert Monroe Harrison as consul at Kingston, Jamaica. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (17-0420).

Feb 4 From John Henry Eaton. LC, DNA-RG 75 (M21-7). Submits Thomas J. V. Owen's appointment as Indian agent at Chicago.

Feb 4 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0440). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:151. Nominates Thomas J. V. Owen for Indian agent at Chicago.

Feb 4 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0442). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:151. Nominates Joseph Saul for consul at Tripoli.

Feb 4 *From Carter Beverley.* *55*

Feb 4 *From Robert Young Hayne.* *60*

Feb 4 From Alexander Jones. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-12). Asks to be appointed to transcribe British government documents in London on American colonial history.

Feb 4 From John Mims et al. LS, DLC (17-0436). Recommend James Patteson for surveyor of the Choctaw and Chickasaw cessions.

Feb 4 From John Taylor. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Asks to be appointed Indian agent.

Feb 4 Andrew Jackson Donelson to Emily Tennessee Donelson. ALS, DLC (17-0433). Promises the latest news from Washington. Franked by AJ.

Feb 5 From William Bolton Finch and Charles W. Morgan. LS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0444). Recommend reinstating dismissed Navy lieutenant Edmund Byrne.

Feb 5 From John Reynolds. LC, I-Ar (mAJs). *Illinois Governors' Letter-Books*, 1:162. Transmits resolutions of the Illinois legislature complaining of Black Hawk's depredations and calling for AJ to remove Indians from all ceded lands in Illinois.

Feb 5 From Levi Woodbury. AN, NjP (17-0446). Recommends George Hill for a clerkship.

Feb 6 *From John Coffee.* *61*

Feb 6 Check [to Michael Anthony Giusta] for $1092. DS, DLC (39).

[Feb 7] To John Henry Eaton. ALS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-808). Copy, DNA-RG 46 (17-0454). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, p. 407 (Serial 245). Refers Horace Binney's letter of Oct 9, 1830, urging the recovery of the certificate for the Seneca Indians' BUS stock from George Burt of Buffalo, N.Y.

Feb 7 From John Branch. LS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0448). LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits nominations of naval officers for promotion, and explains those passed over.

Feb 7 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0455). LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:152. Nominates naval officers for promotion.

Feb 7 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0458). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:152. Nominates Edward T. Dunn for naval purser.

Feb 7 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0460). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:152. Nominates marshals.

Feb 7 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0462). LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:153–54. Nominates Edmund Byrne for reinstatement as a Navy lieutenant.

Feb 7 *From Robert Selden Garnett.* *64*

Feb 7 Michael W. Ash et al. to Daniel H. Miller. DS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1042). Ask his help in procuring a pardon for counterfeit banknote passer Jacob K. Boyer. Endorsed by AJ.

Feb 8 *To Robert Young Hayne.* *65*

Feb 8 *To John Overton.* *68*

Feb 8 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0478). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:153. Nominates Nathaniel S. Benton for district attorney in New York.

Feb 8 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0480). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:153. Nominates Joshua Lippincott to be a government director of the BUS.

[Feb 8] From James Aldrich. DS, DNA-RG 59 (17-0782). Petitions for a pardon for manslaughter, pleading special circumstances, Army service, time served, juror and citizen support, and inability to pay his fine. Approved by AJ Mar 2.

Feb 8 From Lewis Penn Witherspoon Balch. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Asks to be appointed to the West Point board of visitors.

Feb 8 From Simon Drum. ALS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0464). Transmits recommendations for John B. Alexander for Pennsylvania district judge.

[Feb 8] From John Huey et al. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0472). Recommend John B. Alexander for Pennsylvania district judge.

[Feb 8] From Anson Virgil Parsons et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-11). Recommend James Hepburn for Pennsylvania district judge.

Feb 8 Check to Noyes Barber for $174. Facsimile, Remember When Auctions catalog 47 (mAJs).

[Feb 8]	Decision to pardon smuggler Moses M. Gove on confirmation of his insolvency. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (17-0888). LC, DNA-RG 59 (M40-22).
Feb 8	Daniel Brent to Joseph Ferdinand Wingate. LS, DNA-RG 59 (17-0888). LC, DNA-RG 59 (M40-22). Encloses AJ's note approving clemency for Moses M. Gove.
Feb 9	*To Thomas Rigdon et al.* *69*
Feb 9	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0483). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:154. Nominates justices of the peace for the District of Columbia.
Feb 9	*To Jacob M. Wise et al.* *70*
[cFeb 9]	From James Ashton. DS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1017). Prays a remission of his fine and costs for selling liquor without a license. Remission of fine approved by AJ Feb 9.
Feb 9	From Abraham Bell & Co. et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-10). Recommend Reuben Harvey Jr. for consul at Cork, Ireland.
Feb 9	From Mathew Carey, James Nelson Barker, and William Meredith. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-14). Recommend James R. Leib for consul at Tripoli.
Feb 9	From James Ronaldson et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-14). Recommend James R. Leib for consul at Tripoli.
[Feb 9]	From Martin Van Buren. Printed extract and facsimile of AJ endorsement, Christie's (Forbes sale #2), Oct 9, 2002 (mAJs). Asks AJ to help Michael Hoffman avert having to attack Charles Stewart's statement on the bill to compensate Susan W. Decatur. AJ tells William B. Lewis he wants to see Hoffman and then Stewart.
Feb 10	From John Branch. LS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0489). LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1); Copy, DNA-RG 60 (mAJs). Recommends Navy lieutenant Thomas M. Newell for promotion now that a charge against him has been cleared.
Feb 10	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0495). LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:154. Nominates Navy lieutenant Thomas M. Newell for promotion to master commandant.
Feb 10	*To Martin Van Buren.* *71*
Feb 10	Proclamation ordering the removal of settlers under Mexican authority in Arkansas Territory. DS, DNA-RG 11 (T1223-1). Richardson, 2:543–44.
Feb 10	From Henry Horn et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-5). Recommend John Cuthbert for consul at Hamburg.
Feb 10	From David Hudson. D, DNA-RG 59 (17-1172). Prays a release from confinement and remission of his $8,000 penalty for smuggling, which he is unable to pay.
Feb 10	From Sylvester Nash. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Applies for a military pension.
[Feb 10]	From Anthony Vincent et al. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0499). Recommend Joseph Morse for a Revolutionary pension.

Feb 10 Proclamation of an August 1829 commercial treaty with Austria. DS, DNA-RG 11 (17-0486). *HRDoc* 129, 21st Cong., 2d sess., pp. 1–5 (Serial 209).

Feb 10 Andrew Jackson Donelson to Nicholas Philip Trist. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-70). Asks after some missing recommendations for Tench Ringgold for District of Columbia marshal.

Feb 11 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0503). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:157. Nominates Charles W. Morgan for Navy captain.

Feb 11 From William Craig. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-5). Recommends John Cuthbert for consul at Hamburg.

Feb 11 Approval of Isaac McCoy's survey of the new Delaware Indian domain west of Missouri, granted by a treaty of September 1829. DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-300).

Feb 12 *To John Overton.* *71*

Feb 12 From John Henry Eaton. LC, DNA-RG 75 (M21-7). Submits an auditor's report on William Wyatt's charges against Florida governor William P. Duval.

Feb 12 From Waters Smith. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-126). Presses for payment of his expenses in readying shipwrecked Africans in Florida for repatriation.

[Feb 13] From Isaiah Crooker Jr. et al. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0506). Plead for reinstatement of dismissed Navy lieutenant Charles Ellery, whose drinking was brought on by familial misfortune.

Feb 13 From Asher Robbins at al. LS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0511). Rhode Island congressional delegation urges reinstating dismissed Navy lieutenant Charles Ellery.

Feb 13 From Asher Robbins. ALS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0509). Submits the appeals in behalf of dismissed Navy lieutenant Charles Ellery.

Feb 13 *From Richard Mentor Johnson.* *72*

Feb 13 Washington Irving to [Martin Van Buren]. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-16). *The Complete Works of Washington Irving: Letters*, 2 (1979): 587–88. Recommends George W. Montgomery for consul at Oporto, Portugal.

Feb [14] To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0497). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:154. Nominates land officers.

Feb 14 From Churchill Caldom Cambreleng. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-10). Recommends Reuben Harvey Jr. for consul at Cork, Ireland.

Feb 14 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0517). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:154. Nominates Reuben Harvey Jr. for consul at Cork, Ireland.

Feb 14 *From John Strode Barbour.* *73*

Feb 14 *From Robert Young Hayne.* *73*

Feb 15 From Martin Van Buren. DS, DNA-RG 233; LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-0539). Reports on diplomatic measures to obtain indemnity for Portuguese seizures of American shipping.

Feb 15 To the United States House of Representatives. DS, DNA-RG 233; Draft, DNA-RG 59 (17-0535). *House Journal*, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 319 (Serial 205); Richardson, 2:535–36. Transmits

	the State Department report on Portuguese seizures and adds that a ship of war has already been ordered to prepare to protect American shipping.	
Feb 15	*To Anthony Butler.*	*78*
Feb 15	From John Isaac DeGraff. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-126). Argues that it is unreasonable to require vouchers from Navy officer Melancthon T. Woolsey for his expenses in procuring supplies under chaotic wartime conditions on Lake Ontario in 1814.	
Feb 15	*From George Poindexter and Thomas Hinds.*	*82*
Feb 15	Temporary commission for Reuben Harvey Jr. as consul at Cork, Ireland. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (17-0532).	
Feb 16	To the United States Senate. Printed, *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:157 (17-0550). Withdraws the nomination of Richmond Johnson for justice of the peace in Washington, D.C.	
Feb 16	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0551). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:157. Nominates John Coffee for surveyor of Alabama public lands and John Holtzman for justice of the peace in Washington, D.C.	
Feb 16	*From John Coffee.*	*83*
Feb 16	*From Joseph Blount Hinton.*	*85*
Feb 16	From Charles Peirce. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1045). Urges a pardon for Jacob K. Boyer, convicted on poor evidence of passing a counterfeit banknote. Seconded by Ezra S. Ely.	
Feb 16	Pardon for mail thief William Walton Wilcher. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-0553; T967-1).	
Feb 17	*To Mary Ann Eastin.*	*87*
Feb 17	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0574). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:157. Nominates Charles C. P. Hunt for customs collector at Maumee, Ohio.	
Feb 17	From Samson Alton et al. LS, DNA-RG 26 (17-0567). Recommend Benjamin Day to AJ and Ingham for lighthouse keeper at Dunkirk, N.Y.	
Feb 18	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0583). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:158. Nominates Gideon Fitz for surveyor of lands south of Tennessee and Stockley D. Hays for land office register at Clinton, Miss.	
Feb 18	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0585). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:158. Withdraws Charles J. Lanman for reappointment as receiver of the Monroe, Mich., land office and nominates John P. Sheldon instead.	
Feb 18	From John Henry Eaton. LS, DNA-RG 46; Copies, DNA-RG 233 (17-0576). LC, DNA-RG 107 (M127-2). *HRDoc* 107, 21st Cong., 2d sess., pp. 1–2 (Serial 209). Proposes to settle Henry Gale's claim of title to the land on which Fort Delaware was built.	
Feb [18]	From William Knight. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Applies for a military pension.	
Feb 18	*From Tuckabatchee Hadjo and Octeahchee Emathla.*	*88*
Feb 18	Check to Andrew Jackson Donelson for $300. DS, DLC (39).	
Feb 19	To the United States Congress. DS, DNA-RG 46; DS, DNA-RG	

233 (17-0591). *HRDoc* 107, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 1 (Serial 209); Richardson, 2:536. Presents the proposal for settling Henry Gale's claim to Fort Delaware.

Feb 19 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0594). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:160. Nominates sailing master Jonathan D. Ferris for Navy lieutenant.

Feb 19 *From George Gray Leiper.* *90*

Feb 19 From Aaron Slack. ALS, DNA-RG 15 (M804-1846). Appeals the government's denial of a Revolutionary pension for Darby Oram.

Feb 20 *To John Branch.* *92*

Feb 20 From Friend of the Fatherless and the Widow. ALS, THer (17-0597). Asks AJ to aid Jane C. Stout, destitute widow of Benjamin C. Stout.

[cFeb 20] From John Green et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1052). Urge a pardon for counterfeit banknote passer Jacob K. Boyer.

[cFeb 20] From Andrew Y. Moore et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1054). Urge a pardon for Jacob K. Boyer. Approved by AJ Feb 25, to take effect Apr 1.

[cFeb 20] From Charles Peirce et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1048). Urge a pardon for Jacob K. Boyer.

Feb 20 From Jonas Thompson. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Asks to be appointed Cumberland Road superintendent.

Feb 21 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0603). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:160. Nominates Edward Frost for district attorney in South Carolina.

Feb 21 *From John Henry Eaton.* *93*

Feb 21 From Frederick Palmer, Thomas Palmer, Lewis Palmer, and George W. Palmer. LS, DLC (39). Request a pardon for smuggling rum on grounds of inability to pay their fine, family destitution, and innocent intent, and enclose supporting letters from district attorney Asa Child of Dec 20, 1830, and Jan 13, 1831 (DLC-38).

Feb 21 From Daniel Steenrod. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Asks to be appointed Cumberland Road superintendent.

Feb 21 Peleg Sprague to Samuel Delucenna Ingham. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (17-0892). Submits proofs of pardon supplicant Moses M. Gove's insolvency and urges his release. Referred by AJ to Van Buren for Berrien's opinion.

Feb 22 To the United States Congress. DS, DNA-RG 233 (17-0609). *HRRep* 107, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 2 (Serial 210); Richardson, 2:536. Inquires how to dispose of four Arabian horses given by the sultan of Turkey to diplomat Charles Rhind.

Feb 22 *To the United States Senate.* *94*

Feb 22 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0623). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:163. Nominates David J. Baker for district attorney in Illinois.

Feb 22 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0625). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:163. Nominates Elias Rector for marshal of Arkansas Territory.

Feb 22 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0627). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:163. Nominates land officers in Illinois.

Feb 22 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0629). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:163. Nominates John Biddle for register of the Detroit land office.

Feb 22 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0631). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:163. Nominates John Cuthbert for consul at Hamburg.

Feb 22 To the United States Senate. Printed, *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:163 (17-0633). Nominates George W. Crump for consul at St. Bartholomew Island.

[Feb 22] *From John Macpherson Berrien.* *99*

Feb 22 From Stephen Charles et al. Printed, *US Telegraph*, Mar 26 (17-0605). Applaud AJ's administration and invite him to visit Elizabeth City, N.C.

Feb 22 From James Alexander Hamilton. Printed, Hamilton *Reminiscences*, p. 196 (17-0606). Advises postponing a bill in Congress to recede Fort Gansevoort to New York City, as a pending city suit to recover it may entitle the government to a refund of its purchase price.

Feb 22 James Chew Johnston to Andrew Jackson Donelson. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (17-0607). Asks to be appointed to the West Point board of visitors.

Feb 23 From John Henry Eaton. ALS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0637). Suggests renominating John McElvain, previously confirmed as Indian agent under a wrong name.

Feb 23 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0643). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:164. Nominates John McElvain for Indian agent at Piqua, Ohio.

Feb 23 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0639). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:164. Nominates Samuel Allinson for consul at Lyons.

[Feb 23] To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0641). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:164. Nominates Lemuel Wells for consul at Santa Catarina, Brazil.

Feb 23 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0645). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:165; Richardson, 2:541–42. Submits a treaty of cession with the Menominees and reports their failure to reach agreement with the New York Indians.

Feb 23 From Benjamin Bailey. LS, TNJ (17-0634). Recommends James R. Mullany for office.

Feb 23 From John Branch. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits naval officers' commissions for signature.

[Feb 23] From Elias Kent Kane. ALS, DLC (39). Asks to have David J. Baker's name corrected on his nomination for Illinois district attorney. Ordered by AJ Feb 23.

[Feb 23] From the Michigan Territory Legislative Council. Printed, *Journal of the Legislative Council of Michigan*, Jan 1831 session, pp. 112–13 (mAJs). Request that the territorial militia be granted use of surplus arms in the Detroit arsenal.

Feb 24	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0651). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:164. Nominates John A. Bates for naval purser.	
Feb 24	*To Martin Van Buren.*	*100*
[Feb 24]	From Alabama legislators. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Recommend Uriah Blue for Indian agent.	
Feb 24	From Isaac Dutton Barnard. ALS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0647). Recommends Thomas Irwin for district judge in Pennsylvania.	
Feb 24	From Jesse R. Burden. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Recommends W. G. Scott for appointment to the West Point board of visitors.	
Feb 24	*From James Alexander Hamilton.*	*101*
Feb 24	From Benjamin Chew Howard. AL, DNA-RG 94 (M688-77). Recommends William H. French for cadet at West Point.	
Feb 24	Ratification of the Choctaw removal treaty concluded September 27, 1830, at Dancing Rabbit Creek. DS, DNA-RG 11 (M668-6).	
Feb 24	Ratification of a treaty of cession concluded July 15, 1830, at Prairie du Chien with the Sac and Fox and other Indians. DS, DNA-RG 11 (M668-4).	
Feb 24	Check to Andrew Jackson Jr. for $100. DS, DLC (39).	
Feb 25	*From Lewis Cass.*	*102*
Feb 25	From John Henry Eaton. LC, DNA-RG 75 (M21-7). Submits for signature a statement of land sale revenues to be applied for Indian objects.	
Feb 26	To Mr. Barker. N, Doyle New York sale 04BP02, 2004 (mAJs). Invitation to dinner on Mar 1.	
Feb 26	From John Henry Eaton. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0659). LC, DNA-RG 107 (M127-2). *SDoc* 72, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 1 (Serial 204). Submits an engineers' report in response to a Senate resolution querying whether appropriations to improve navigation on the Ohio and Mississippi are being properly applied.	
Feb 26	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0661). *SDoc* 72, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 1 (Serial 204); Richardson, 2:541. Transmits the War Department report detailing progress in improving navigation on the Ohio and Mississippi.	
Feb 26	From Lewis Meredith Cowper et al. Printed, *Edenton Gazette and Farmer's Palladium*, Mar 23, 1831 (mAJs). *US Telegraph*, Mar 28 (17-0656). Invite AJ to visit Murfreesboro, N.C.	
Feb 26	From William Duncan. ALS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0657). Recommends Thomas Irwin for district judge in Pennsylvania.	
Feb 26	From Joseph Vance. ALS, DNA-RG 75 (17-0666). Submits an Indian land conveyance in Ohio for approval. Referred by AJ to Elijah Hayward for report.	
Feb 28	*From William Hendricks.*	*104*
Feb 28	*To John Henry Eaton.*	*104*
[Feb 28]	*To John Overton.*	*105*
Feb 28	To the United States House of Representatives. DS, DNA-RG 233 (17-0675). *House Journal*, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 381 (Serial 205); Richardson, 2:542. Requests an appropriation to	

implement the Choctaw removal treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek.

Feb 28 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0677). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:164. Nominates District of Columbia penitentiary inspectors and warden.

Feb [28] To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0679). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:164. Withdraws Charles C. P. Hunt for customs collector at Maumee, Ohio, and renominates previous incumbent Lemuel T. Lloyd, recovered from the illness that had forced his resignation.

Feb 28 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0681). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:167. Nominates Robert Fulton for secretary to the Danish claims commission and Lewis Shoemaker for consul at Matanzas, Cuba.

Feb 28 To the United States Senate. Printed, *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:165 (17-0683). Richardson, 2:542. Submits a cession and removal treaty of Feb 28 with the Sandusky Senecas of Ohio.

Feb 28 From Jonathan Harvey. ALS, NN (17-0670). Recommends Henry Stark for naval purser.

Feb 28 *Charles Jared Ingersoll to John Forsyth.* *105*
[cFeb] *From Joseph Inslee Anderson.* *106*
Feb *From John Rhea.* *109*
[cFeb] *Draft on the Seminole controversy.* *110*

Mar 1 To Ferdinand II, King of the Two Sicilies. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-0698). Offers condolences on the death of Francis I and friendship on his succession to the throne.

Mar 1 To Ferdinand VII, King of Spain. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-0699). Offers congratulations on the birth of his daughter Isabella.

Mar 1 To Leopold, Grand Duke of Baden. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-0702). Offers congratulations on the marriage of his brother Wilhelm.

Mar 1 To Leopold, Grand Duke of Baden. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-0703). Offers congratulations on the marriage of his grandniece Louise.

Mar 1 To the United States Congress. DS, DNA-RG 46; DS, DNA-RG 233 (17-0708). *HRDoc* 123, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 1 (Serial 209); Richardson 2:542. Transmits copies of the ratified Choctaw and Sac and Fox and Sioux treaties.

Mar 1 From John Branch. LS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0693). LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Copy, DNA-RG 45 (M124-153). Proposes Marine captain William H. Freeman for brevet promotion.

Mar 1 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0713). LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:167. Nominates Marine captain William H. Freeman for brevet lieutenant colonel.

Mar 1 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0711). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:167. Nominates Thomas E. Burfoot for district attorney in Virginia.

Mar 1 From John Henry Eaton. LS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0695). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:172. Proposes Army brevet 2d lieutenant Ormsby M. Mitchel for promotion.

Mar 1	From John Gilmore et al. LS, DNA-RG 94 (17-0700). Pennsylvania congressmen recommend Timothy Alden for the West Point board of visitors.
Mar 1	From Wiley Thompson. ALS, DNA-RG 233 (17-0704). Supports Solomon D. Betton's appeal of his accounts as commissioner to purchase Creek improvements.
Mar 1	From Elisha Tibbits et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-3). Recommend Frederick E. Bunker for consul at Constantinople.
Mar 1	Daniel Brent to Andrew Jackson Donelson. LS, DNA-RG 59 (17-0859). Transmits the file on the Palmer brothers' appeal for pardon for smuggling rum. Referred by AJ to district attorney Asa Child.
Mar 1	Andrew Jackson Donelson to John Branch. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-127). Introduces William Emmons, to inquire about using the Navy Department library.
Mar 2	To the United States Congress. DS, DNA-RG 46; DS, DNA-RG 233 (17-0758). *HRDoc* 129, 21st Cong., 2d sess., p. 1 (Serial 209); Richardson, 2:542. Transmits the ratified commercial treaty with Austria.
Mar 2	From John Macpherson Berrien. LC, DNA-RG 60 (T412-3). *HRDoc* 123, 26th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 808–9 (Serial 387). Submits an opinion that dismissed Navy master commandant John H. Clack's court-martial was invalid and that he is entitled to reinstatement.
Mar 2	From John Henry Clack. LS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0720). Submits testimonials to his good conduct in the Navy.
Mar 2	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0762). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:167; Richardson, 2:543. Nominates John H. Clack for reinstatement as Navy master commandant, voiding his dismissal.
Mar 2	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0764). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:170. Nominates William J. Duane for claims commissioner under the Danish convention.
Mar 2	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0766). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:170. Nominates Thomas C. Sheldon for Monroe, Mich., land office receiver.
Mar 2	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0768). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:170. Nominates Peter Desnoyers for Michigan Territory marshal.
Mar 2	From John Campbell (Tenn.). ALS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-236). Submits a receipt to show he has paid the Treasury and is no longer a defaulter to the government.
Mar 2	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0770). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:170. Nominates John Campbell for agent to the Western Creeks.
Mar 2	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0772). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:170. Nominates customs officers.
Mar 2	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0774). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:171. Nominates customs officers.
Mar 2	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0776). *Senate*

Executive Proceedings, 4:171. Nominates George W. Ewing for chargé d'affaires to Turkey.

Mar 2 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0778). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:171. Nominates John W. Bingy for customs surveyor at Pontchartrain, La.

Mar 2 From Joseph Inslee Anderson. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-11). Recommends George W. Hughes for consul at Tangier.

Mar 2 From Samuel Emerson Smith. *115*

Mar 2 From James Moore Wayne. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (17-0795). Submits and supports James Aldrich's petition for pardon for manslaughter.

Mar 2 Temporary commission for Samuel Allinson as consul at Lyons. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (17-0715).

Mar 2 Temporary commission for John Adams Cameron as consul at Vera Cruz. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (17-0716).

Mar 2 Commission for Thomas Carbery, James Dunlop, and William O'Neale as District of Columbia penitentiary inspectors. DS, DNA-RG 48 (17-0717).

Mar 2 Temporary commission for George William Crump as consul at St. Bartholomew Island. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (17-0738).

Mar 2 Temporary commission for John Cuthbert as consul at Hamburg. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (17-0739).

Mar 2 Temporary commission for Joseph Saul as consul at Tripoli. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (17-0740).

Mar 2 Temporary commission for Lewis Shoemaker as consul at Matanzas, Cuba. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (17-0741).

Mar 2 Temporary commission for Lemuel Wells as consul at Santa Catarina, Brazil. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (17-0780).

Mar 2 Peleg Sprague to Samuel Delucenna Ingham. AN, DNA-RG 59 (17-0894). Encloses proofs of pardon supplicant Moses M. Gove's insolvency and poor health. AJ orders his release Mar 15.

Mar 3 From Thomas Hart Benton, Richard Mentor Johnson, and Charles Anderson Wickliffe. LS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0797). Recommend Andrew Elliott for customs surveyor at Wheeling, Va.

Mar 3 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0804). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:175. Nominates Andrew Elliott for customs surveyor at Wheeling, Va.

Mar 3 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0800). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:172. Nominates Nicholas Navoni for dragoman at Constantinople.

Mar 3 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0802). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:175. Nominates James Dell for customs collector at St. Johns, Fla.

Mar 3 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0806). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:175. Nominates Joshua Baker for surveyor of public lands in Louisiana.

Mar 3 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (17-0808). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:172. Nominates Ormsby M. Mitchel for promotion to Army 2d lieutenant.

Mar 3	From John Branch. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits naval officers' commissions for signature.	
Mar 3	From John Campbell. LC, DNA-RG 50 (17-0799). Submits certified copies of the U.S. Treasurer's office accounts for 1829–30.	
Mar 3	From William Campbell. Copy, DNA-RG 75 (M234-749). Complains that mineral smelters near Galena operating under Indian agent licenses enjoy an unfair advantage and depredate U.S. timber.	
Mar 3	From George Michael Troup. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-127). Asks AJ to rectify Navy captain Melancthon T. Woolsey's unjust removal from command of the Pensacola navy yard by restoring him to active service.	
Mar 3	Pardon for manslaughter, remission of fine, and release from prison on payment of costs for James Aldrich. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-0781; T967-1).	
Mar 4	From Hugh Alexander. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0057). Urges a pardon for young mail robber Henry B. Cox, who has served five years of his ten-year sentence.	
Mar 4	*From the New York Indians of Green Bay.*	*116*
Mar 5	*From William Hendricks.*	*118*
Mar 6	From Ambrose Hundley Sevier. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Recommends road commissioners for Arkansas Territory.	
[Mar 7]	From Jean Baptiste Gaspard Roux de Rochelle. AD text dated Mar 5, DNA-RG 59 (M53-8). Takes leave as French minister to the United States.	
[Mar 7]	From Louis Barbe Charles Sérurier. AD text dated Mar 5, DNA-RG 59 (M53-8). Presents his credentials as French minister to the United States.	
Mar 7	To Louis Philippe, King of the French. LC, DNA-RG 59; Copy, FrPMAE; Draft, DLC (17-0816). Compliments departing French minister Roux de Rochelle.	
Mar 7	*To Charles Jones Love.*	*120*
Mar 7	*From Robert Armstrong.*	*121*
Mar 7	Receipted bill from Christian Eckloff for clothing. DS, DLC (39).	
Mar 7	Check to Michael Anthony Giusta for $719.86. DS, DLC (39).	
Mar 7	Check to Andrew Jackson Jr. for $900. DS, DLC (39).	
Mar 7	Lawrence Taliaferro Dade to Andrew Jackson Donelson. ALS, Stanley F. Horn (17-0814). Asks the return of Philip P. Barbour's letters recommending him for office. Endorsed by AJ.	
Mar 8	To Stephen Charles et al. Printed, *US Telegraph*, Mar 26 (17-0822). Thanks them for the invitation to visit Elizabeth City, N.C.	
Mar 8	To Lewis Meredith Cowper et al. Printed, *Edenton Gazette and Farmer's Palladium*, Mar 23 (mAJs). *US Telegraph*, Mar 28 (17-0823). Thanks them for the invitation to visit Murfreesboro, N.C.	

Mar 8	*To Andrew Jackson Donelson.*	*122*
Mar 8	To Philip Grymes Randolph. DS, DNA-RG 107 (M221-111). LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-0827). Appoints him acting secretary of war during John H. Eaton's illness.	
Mar 8	From Asa Child. ADS, DNA-RG 59 (17-0861). Recommends pardoning the rum-smuggling Palmer brothers, who are destitute of property to pay their penalty and earn release. Approved by AJ Mar 14.	
[cMar 8]	*Memorandum on David Crockett and Stockley Donelson Hays.*	*123*
Mar 9	From John D. Craig. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (17-0828). Recommends John Thomson for appointment to the West Point board of visitors.	
Mar 10	*To Andrew Jackson Donelson.*	*124*
Mar 10	*To Emily Tennessee Donelson.*	*125*
Mar 10	*To Virgil Maxcy.*	*125*
Mar [10]	*To Louis McLane.*	*126*
Mar 10	From John Branch. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits naval officers' commissions for signature.	
Mar 10	*From David W. Haley.*	*128*
[Mar 10]	Advertisement at stud and pedigree for the stallion Bolivar. Printed, *Nashville Republican and State Gazette*, Mar 10 (mAJs).	
Mar 11	*To Samuel Delucenna Ingham.*	*129*
Mar 11	From Caleb Atwater. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Submits a claim for pay as an Indian treaty commissioner.	
Mar 11	From William D. Lawrence. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-13). Defends his character, seeks appointment as consul at Tangier, and submits recommendations.	
Mar 11	From James N. Lea. Copy, DLC (39). Decision of the U.S. District Court for Eastern Louisiana in *U.S. v. 62 Africans*, remanding the Africans on the seized slave schooner *Fenix* to the president for transportation abroad.	
Mar 11	John Nicholson and John Slidell to Samuel Delucenna Ingham. LS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1556). Recommend Anson Boyes, imprisoned on a $400 judgment for illegally unloading goods at New Orleans, for clemency. Approved by AJ Jun 7.	
Mar 12	From Benjamin Evens. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-7). Asks to be appointed consul at Tangier or Tripoli.	
Mar 12	James Bonaparte Thornton to John Campbell. Copy, DLC (39). Treasury comptroller requests that the judgment against John Campbell of Tennessee be cancelled and his Mar 2 payment refunded, as he was in fact the government's creditor, not debtor.	
Mar 13	From Henry F. McCracken. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Applies to be head mooring master at the Delaware breakwater.	
Mar 14	From Comstick et al. DS, DNA-RG 75 (17-0841). Seneca chiefs request approval of a location of Ohio land for subagent Henry C. Brish.	

Mar 14 From Charles Gerrit De Witt. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-6). Recites his early political services to AJ in New York State and asks to be appointed consul at Tangier.

Mar 14 From Benjamin Chew Howard. ALS, DNA-RG 15 (M804-575). Asks that Revolutionary veteran Peter Cleer, awarded a back pension by Congress in a Mar 2 Act that lacked an appropriation clause, be paid from the general pension fund. Endorsed by AJ that barring a surplus in the fund, Cleer must await a specific appropriation.

Mar 15 From William Henry Ashley. ALS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-883). Praises Upper Missouri Indian agent John Dougherty and criticizes those who seek his removal.

Mar 15 From Philip D. Hunt. ALS, DNA-RG 107 (M222-29). Ailing and impoverished veteran asks for money to help him move west.

Mar 15 From Thomas Kennedy. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-13). Asks for employment as dispatch bearer on his forthcoming trip to Europe.

Mar 15 Pardon for brothers Frederick, Lewis, Thomas Jr., and George W. Palmer, imprisoned for inability to pay their penalty for smuggling rum. DS, DLC (39). LC, DNA-RG 59 (T967-1). Copy, DNA-RG 206 (17-0845).

Mar [16] *To Martin Van Buren.* *130*

[Mar 16–18] *Memoranda on the Northeast boundary.* *130*

Mar 16 From John Branch. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits naval officers' commissions for signature.

[cMar 16] From Peter Cleer. DS, DNA-RG 15 (M804-575). Begs for immediate payment of his Revolutionary back pension. Referred by AJ to the War Department Mar 18 and ordered paid.

Mar 16 From Joseph Hopkinson, George Mifflin Dallas, and James Nelson Barker. DS, TNJ (17-0902). Recommend John Richardson to succeed his late father Joseph as assayer of the Mint. Appointed by AJ Mar 21.

Mar 16 Remission of penalty and costs and discharge from imprisonment for smuggler Moses M. Gove. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-0869; T967-1).

Mar 16 John H. Morel to Daniel Brent. LS, DNA-RG 59 (17-0935). Reports that James Aldrich, pardoned for manslaughter, is unable to pay costs. AJ orders his release Mar 22.

Mar 17 From Elijah Hayward. LC, DNA-RG 49 (M25-26). Reports against withholding from public sale Louisiana lands dubiously claimed by Bernard D'Auterive's heirs under a 1756 French grant.

Mar 17 From Samuel Delucenna Ingham. Printed, *Journal of the House of Delegates of the Commonwealth of Virginia*, December 1830 sess., pp. 252–54 (mAJs). *Richmond Enquirer*, Mar 26. Reports that Virginia's accounts with the U.S. for Revolutionary expenses were conclusively settled in 1793, showing her as debtor to the U.S. for $100,879.

Mar 17 From John Richardson. ALS, DLC (73). Asks to be appointed assayer of the Mint.

Mar 18	*To John Floyd.*	*133*
Mar 18	*To Samuel Delucenna Ingham.*	*134*
Mar 18	*To Francis Preston.*	*134*
Mar 18	*From John Blair.*	*135*
Mar 18	From Peter Parsons. ALS, DLC (39). Asks AJ to deny favoring William B. Carter over John Blair for Congress.	
Mar 18	*From Spencer Darwin Pettis.*	*136*
Mar 19	To John Boyle. Photostat of DS, DLC (73). LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-0909). Appoints him acting secretary of the Navy in John Branch's absence.	
Mar 19	*To Edward Livingston.*	*137*
Mar 19	*From Robert Todd Lytle.*	*138*
Mar 19	From William McCoy. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-18). Recommends James Points for marshal in Virginia in place of Benjamin Reeder.	
Mar 19	From Richard Peters. DS, DLC (39). Encloses a "true copy" of the majority and concurring opinions in *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*. Endorsed by AJ: "Judges opinions or the opinion of the court in the case of the cherokee Indians vs State of Georgia."	
[cMar 19]	*Memorandum on* Cherokee Nation v. Georgia.	*139*
Mar 19	From James Ronaldson. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-14). Recommends James R. Leib for consul at Tripoli.	
Mar 20	*From Shadrach Penn Jr.*	*140*
Mar 20	From Spencer Darwin Pettis. ALS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-434). Complains of incursions and depredations in northwest Missouri by Sac, Fox, and Iowa Indians.	
Mar 20	From Benjamin Phillips. ALS, TNJ (17-0918). Applauds William Bainbridge's removal from command of the Philadelphia navy yard, accuses others including naval constructors Samuel Humphreys and James Keene of incompetence, corruption, and anti-republicanism, and asks to be appointed in Humphreys' place.	
Mar 21	From John Boyle. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits master commandant Thomas M. Newell's commission for signature.	
Mar 21	Temporary commission for John Richardson as assayer of the Mint. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-0922).	
Mar 21	Jefferson Stedman to William Cranch. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1013). Requests remission of his fine and release from imprisonment after completing his sentence for assault and battery. Approved by AJ Mar 25.	
Mar 22	From Walter Bowne. LS, DNA-RG 92 (17-0923). Asks the Army not to create a navigation hazard by dismantling the North Battery before receding it to New York City.	
[cMar 22]	From Jacob Dixon. DS, DNA-RG 59 (17-0946). Asks release from prison for keeping a gambling house, citing ill health and arguing that no statute made his act a punishable crime. Approved by AJ Mar 23 on condition of his paying fine and costs.	
Mar 22	*Memorandum by James Booker Gardiner.*	*160*
Mar 22	From George Rockingham Gilmer. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-70).	

	LC, G-Ar; Copy, DNA-RG 233 (17-0927). *HRDoc* 43, 22d Cong., 1st sess., pp. 2–3 (Serial 217). Reports Georgia's intent to unilaterally determine its disputed boundary line with Florida.
Mar 22	From Robert Breckinridge McAfee. ALS, DLC (73). Recommends George L. Waugh for Indian subagent or land officer.
Mar 22	From George L. Waugh. ALS, DLC (73). Asks to be appointed Indian subagent or land officer.
Mar 23	From William Goss. DS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1100). Convicted gambler requests a pardon, pleading reformation, poverty, ill health, and the severity of his prison sentence. Approved by AJ Apr 9.
Mar 23	From Elijah Hayward. LC, DNA-RG 49 (M25-26). Reports that William S. Fulton's compensation claim as assistant counsel in Arkansas land cases has been submitted to Ingham.
[cMar 23]	From Thomas Milburn. DS, DNA-RG 59 (17-0984). Pleads for a remission of his fine and costs for assault and battery, citing his dependent family, good reputation, and inability to pay. Approved by AJ Mar 24.
Mar 23	From Joseph Vance. ALS, DNA-RG 75 (17-0938). Requests prompt action on his Feb 26 application to approve an Indian land conveyance.
Mar 23	Remission of court costs and release from imprisonment for James Aldrich, pardoned for manslaughter Mar 2. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-0934; T967-1).
Mar 24	*To Andrew Jackson Donelson.* *141*
Mar 24	*From Samuel T. Bailey.* *145*
Mar 24	From John Boyle. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Reports on the disposition of complaints of cruelty made against Marine captain John Harris.
Mar 24	From John Boyle. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Transmits a Treasury auditor's report on the case of Navy captain William B. Finch.
Mar 24	From Richard Keith Call. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M567-64). Recommends Captain James Wolfe Ripley for command of the St. Louis arsenal. George Gibson concurs.
Mar 24	From William Campbell. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Asks to be appointed lead mine superintendent at Galena, Ill.
Mar 24	*From Thomas J. Lacy.* *147*
Mar 24	From J. Ponte Coulant McMahon. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Army surgeon requests a year's furlough.
Mar 24	From T. Montandon. ADS, DLC (39). Receipted bill for repairing a gold watch.
Mar 24	From Mushulatubbe et al. DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-185). Copy, DNA-RG 46 (17-0967). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, p. 418 (Serial 245). Northeastern district Choctaws ask AJ to appoint Peter P. Pitchlynn to lead their removal westward.
Mar 24	From John Pemberton. ALS draft, PHi (17-0969). Introduces Hudson S. Foster, on his way to Europe.

Mar 24 From Spencer Darwin Pettis. ALS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-434). Prays AJ's special attention to his recent requests.

Mar 24 Ratification of the Delaware treaty of Sep 24, 1829. DS, DNA-RG 11 (M668-6).

Mar 24 Ratification of the Sandusky Seneca treaty of Feb 28, 1831. DS, DNA-RG 11 (M668-6).

Mar 24 Release from prison for gambling-house keeper Jacob Dixon, contingent on his payment of fine and court costs. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-0945; T967-1).

Mar 25 *To John Boyle.* *149*

Mar 25 To Antonio da Silveira Pinto da Fonseca. LC, DNA-RG 59; Draft, DLC (17-0975). Thanks him for a copy of *Portuguese Legitimacy*.

Mar 25 From John Macpherson Berrien. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-70). LC, DNA-RG 60 (T412-3). *HRDoc* 123, 26th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 817–26 (Serial 387). Submits an opinion defending the constitutionality of South Carolina's law imprisoning Negro seamen as a legitimate exercise of internal police power and reserved sovereign rights.

Mar 25 From John Stevens Cogdell. ALS, THer (17-0971). Presents a bust of Stephen Elliott and censures nullification.

Mar 25 From Joseph Blount Hinton. ALS, DLC (39). *North Carolina Historical Review* 14 (1937): 371–77. Asks to be appointed marine hospital contractor and lighthouse keeper at Ocracoke, N.C., criticizes the hospital management and customs collector Joshua Tayloe, and describes his battles against North Carolina Calhounites.

Mar 26 *To John Boyle.* *150*

Mar 26 From John Boyle. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M125-157). LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Transmits William Bainbridge's indecorous Mar 5 letter, as requested by AJ.

Mar 26 From Robert Coleman Foster. ALS, THer (17-0979). Recommends William M. Berryhill for marshal in Tennessee.

Mar 26 *From A. S. Hill.* *150*

Mar 26 From Samuel Emerson Smith. ALS, DNA-RG 76; Copy, DNA-RG 46 (17-0988). Transmits a Mar 18 resolution of the Maine legislature requesting the documentary record of the Northeast boundary arbitration.

Mar 26 Remission of Thomas Milburn's fine and costs for assault and battery, and order for his discharge. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-0982; T967-1).

Mar 28 To Jacob C. Hoghland. Abstract, *American Book-Prices Current*, 1967–1968, p. 1150 (17-0998). Comments on Gen. Stockly's denial of writing an abusive publication about AJ.

Mar 28 From Thomas Claiborne. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-2). Recommends William M. Berryhill for marshal in Tennessee.

Mar 28 From Susan James Colbert. LS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-136). Copy, DNA-RG 46 (17-0995). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 3, pp. 200–201 (Serial 246). Asks AJ's consent to sell her 640-acre

reservation under the Choctaw treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek.

Mar 28 From Sylvester Nash. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Writes about his application for an Army pension.

Mar 28 From James Knox Polk. ALS copy, DLC (17-1000). *Polk Correspondence*, 1:405. Recommends Andrew A. Kincannon or John W. Childress for marshal in Tennessee.

Mar 28 From Asher Robbins et al. LS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-127). Rhode Island senators and congressmen praise John O. Creighton and request a speedy review of his court-martial.

Mar 28 From John Swartwout. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M148-66). Navy lieutenant requests a leave or furlough.

Mar 29 *To Andrew Jackson Jr.* *151*

Mar 29 *From Martin Van Buren.* *153*

Mar 29 *To William Berkeley Lewis.* *153*

Mar 29 Temporary commission for Micajah Terrell Williams as surveyor general of public lands for Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1009).

Mar 30 *From John Rhea.* *153*

Mar 30 Remission of fine for assault and battery and discharge from imprisonment for Jefferson Stedman. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1011; T967-1).

Mar 31 To John Boyle. AN, DNA-RG 45 (M124-127). Asks to see him about midshipman appointments.

Mar 31 From John Boyle. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits appointment papers for three midshipmen.

Mar 31 *From William Bernard Conway.* *154*

Mar 31 From Andrew Jackson Donelson. ALS, TNJ (17-1022). Encloses William M. Berryhill's request to be appointed marshal in Tennessee.

Mar 31 From Andrew Stevenson. ALS, NjP (17-1027). Introduces Mr. Shaw of Richmond.

Mar 31 Remission of James Ashton's fine for illegal liquor sales and order for his release on payment of court costs. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1016; T967-1).

[Mar] From Sardinia Forbes. Typed copy, NN (17-0686). Prays for her release from unjust confinement in the New York asylum.

Mar *From James Monroe.* *158*

Apr 1 To John M. Moore. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1062). Appoints him acting GLO commissioner during Elijah Hayward's absence.

Apr 1 *From George Gilliss.* *159*

Apr 1 From William Hardeman. DS, DLC (39). Receipt for AJ's payment of William S. Reid's tuition at James H. Otey's Harpeth Academy in 1827–28.

Apr 1 *From Little Leader et al.* *159*

Apr 1 From David Stewart. DS, DLC (39). Receipt for AJ's purchase of a carryall and harness.

Apr 1 Remission, on payment of costs, of Jacob K. Boyer's remaining prison sentence for passing a counterfeit banknote. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1037; T967-1).

Apr 1	Check to self for $100. DS, DLC (39).	
Apr 2	*From James Booker Gardiner.*	*160*
Apr 2	*From J. W. Q. Harding.*	*164*
Apr 2	From John Temple. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Applies for the arrears of his Army pension.	
Apr 3	From Jacob Bosworth. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Applies for military bounty land.	
Apr 3	*From Hardy Murfree Cryer.*	*164*
Apr 3	Robert Johnstone Chester to Andrew Jackson Donelson. ALS, DLC (39). Inquires after his drafts on the Post Office and predicts David Crockett's reelection defeat.	
Apr 4	*To William Bernard Conway.*	*166*
[Apr 4]	To Samuel Delucenna Ingham. ANS, DNA-RG 56 (17-1064). Approves a $200 payment to two Philadelphia constables for expenses in the arrest of Tobias Watkins.	
Apr 4	*To Martin Van Buren.*	*167*
Apr 4	*From Llewellyn Jones.*	*168*
Apr 4	From C. & D. & S. Keener. LS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-127). Protest John Branch's refusal to honor the drafts of former Valparaiso navy agent Michael Hogan.	
Apr 4	From Samuel Rhea. ALS, DLC (39). Encloses John Rhea's letter of Mar 30.	
Apr 4	Check to William Berkeley Lewis for $125. DS, DLC (39).	
Apr 5	*To Thomas Lilly Smith.*	*169*
Apr 5	From Mr. Hays. Typed copy, THer (17-1068). Accepts a dinner invitation.	
Apr 6	From Charles Kitchel Gardner. ALS, THi (17-1071). Encloses a post office check to Robert J. Chester for $100.	
Apr 6	*To Robert Johnstone Chester.*	*169*
Apr 6	*To James Alexander Hamilton.*	*170*
Apr 6	From Samuel T. Anderson. ALS, DNA-RG 107 (M221-111). Protests the unfair settlement of his accounts as naval supply contractor during the War of 1812 and requests a pension or Baltimore customs appointment.	
Apr 6	*From John Randolph.*	*172*
Apr 6	From F. Masi & Co. Receipted bill for $8.50 for a ring. DS, DLC (39).	
Apr 6	Statement from Josiah Nichol & Son of account and balance due. D, DLC (40). Runs to Jan 7, 1832. Noted "paid" by AJ.	
Apr 7	To Samuel Delucenna Ingham. DS, DNA-RG 107 (M221-111). Orders land adjoining Fort Sullivan, Maine, retained for War Department use instead of sold.	
Apr [c7]	*To Thomas Hill Williams.*	*173*
Apr 7	From John Boyle. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Reports that the Navy commissioners oppose building the new schooners at Baltimore.	
Apr 7	*From John Henry Eaton.*	*176*
[Apr 7]	From Josias Simpson. DS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1300). Prays a remission of his fine and costs for gambling and release from confinement. Release approved by AJ on payment of costs, May 6.	

Apr 7	From Martin Van Buren. LC, DNA-RG 59 (M40-22). Requests an advance of funds for contingent expenses of the Danish claims commission.
Apr 7	Check to Michael Anthony Giusta for $751.17. DS, DLC (39).
Apr 8	*To John Henry Eaton.* *177*
Apr 8	To Martin Van Buren. ANS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1089). Appoints Samuel B. Marshall marshal in Tennessee.
Apr 8	Temporary commission for Samuel B. Marshall as marshal in Tennessee. DS, THer (17-1088).
Apr 8	From Ephraim Bowen. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-70). Complains of Lewis Shoemaker's avarice and corruption as consul at Matanzas, and recommends A. Orlando Newton to replace him.
Apr 8	*From Samuel Delucenna Ingham.* *177*
Apr 8	*From Chesed P. Montgomery.* *178*
Apr 8	William Carroll to Martin Van Buren. ALS, DLC (39). States his willingness to accept the mission to Mexico.
Apr 8	Daniel Kellogg to Martin Van Buren. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1174). Relates the case of smuggler David Hudson, and recommends remitting his fine and releasing him to relieve his suffering family. Approved by AJ Apr 15.
[Apr 9]	*To John Boyle.* *179*
Apr 9	*To Hugh Lawson White.* *180*
Apr 9	From Frederick VI, King of Denmark. LS and translation, DNA-RG 59 (17-1092). Announces that former minister to the U.S. Peder Pedersen has been made a Commander of the Order of Dannebrog.
Apr 9	From James Alexander Hamilton. Printed, Hamilton *Reminiscences*, pp. 204–5 (17-1107). Reports Charles Rhind's refusal to relinquish his claim to the Turkish horses.
Apr 9	From Kaushkawnonew et al. DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-315). Menominee Indians ask AJ to confirm their permission to Albert G. Ellis to erect a grist and saw mill on land just ceded to the U.S. east of Fox River.
Apr 9	From Kaushkawnonew et al. DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-315). Menominee Indians ask AJ to confirm their permission to Charles A. Grignon to erect a grist and saw mill at Apple Creek on their land west of Fox River.
Apr 9	From Kaushkawnonew et al. DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-315). Menominee Indians ask AJ to confirm their permission to Robert Irwin Jr., Charles A. Grignon, and Albert G. Ellis to erect grist and saw mills at Little Chute on the west side of Fox River.
Apr 9	From James H. Sewell et al. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-27). Recommend Edward Patchell for Army quartermaster.
Apr 9	Remission of William Goss's prison sentence for gambling, provided he pay his fine and costs. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1098; T967-1).
Apr 9	Martin Van Buren to Edward Livingston. ALS, NjP (mAJs).

	ALS draft, DLC (17-1109). Conveys AJ's request to come quickly and quietly to Washington.	
Apr 10	*From William Donelson.*	*182*
Apr 11	To John Boyle. ANS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-127). Asks how soon and for what station the sloop *John Adams* will sail from Norfolk.	
Apr 11	From John Boyle. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Says the *John Adams* is nearly ready to sail for the Mediterranean to relieve the sloop *Fairfield*.	
Apr 11	From Heman Allen. Copy, DNA-RG 46 (17-1115). Appeals the Treasury's rejection of his claim for commission for arresting debtors when he was U.S. marshal in Vermont.	
Apr [11]	*From Cornelius Bogert.*	*182*
Apr 11	From John Boyle. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits assistant naval surgeon Jonathan M. Foltz's commission for signature.	
[cApr 11]	From James Edwards et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0061). Urge a pardon for Henry B. Cox.	
Apr 11	From Unknown. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0063). Urges a pardon for Henry B. Cox. Postponed for Livingston's opinion and then approved by AJ.	
Apr 11	From Joseph Lee Smith. ALS copy, DNA-RG 46 (17-1121). *TPUS*, 24:519–21. Presents documents proving the falsity and malice of complaints against him as Florida district judge.	
Apr 11	*From Martin Van Buren.*	*183*
[Apr 11]	From Martin Van Buren. ALS, DLC (17-1145). Promises to come and bring the papers.	
Apr 11	William Carroll to Martin Van Buren. ALS, DLC (73; 17-1117). Explains that he will accept the Mexican mission but did not solicit it or other office on principle.	
Apr 12	To John Boyle. AN, DNA-RG 45 (M124-127). Orders the *John Adams* to sail as soon as possible.	
Apr 12	From John Boyle. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Reports his measures to expedite the sailing of the *John Adams*.	
Apr 12	*To James Alexander Hamilton.*	*186*
Apr 12	To Nicholas Philip Trist. AN, DLC (17-1148). Asks to see him.	
Apr 12	*To Martin Van Buren.*	*187*
[Apr 12]	*To Martin Van Buren.*	*188*
[cApr 12]	From John Gibson Jr. D, DNA-RG 59 (17-1160). Asks remittance of his fine and costs for assault and battery, which he is unable to pay. Approved by AJ Apr 13.	
Apr 13	From John Lang. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-6). Recommends Peter F. W. De Koster for consul at Leghorn and his son William Lang for a commission in the Marines.	
Apr 13	Remission of fine and costs for assault and battery and release from confinement for John Gibson Jr. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1159; T967-1).	
Apr 14	From James Alexander Hamilton. ALS, DLC (39). Reports on Charles Rhind's sailing plans and the advertised sale of the	

	Turkish horses, thanks AJ for attentions to Dominick T. Blake, and promises him employment.
Apr 14	Temporary commission for Thomas Irwin as district judge in Pennsylvania. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1164).
Apr 14	Temporary commission for George Strobel as consul at Bordeaux, France. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (17-1165).
Apr 15	To Mahmud II, Sultan of Turkey. LC, DNA-RG 59; Copy, DLC; Copy, DNA-RG 84 (17-1179). Offers friendship and introduces chargé David Porter, to exchange treaty ratifications and explain the Senate's rejection of the secret article.
[Apr 15]	From Henry Ashton. ANS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1192). Affirms that gambler William Goss, pardoned on condition of paying his fine and costs, is unable to do so.
Apr 15	*From David W. Haley.* *189*
Apr 15	From John Reynolds. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-70). Proposes arrangements for the commission to run the northern boundary line of Illinois.
Apr 15	Release from confinement and remission of fine and costs for indigent smuggler David Hudson. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1170; T967-1).
Apr 15	Temporary commission for David Porter as chargé d'affaires to Turkey. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1184).
Apr 15	Daniel Parker to John Henry Eaton. ALS, DLC (39). Praises AJ's conduct and condemns Calhoun's treachery and duplicity in the Seminole affair.
Apr 16	From Isaac Trimble Preston. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-22). Recommends Jonathan S. Smith for consul at Tripoli.
Apr 16	From Jonathan S. Smith. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-22). Asks to be appointed consul at Tripoli.
Apr 17	From James Alexander Hamilton. Printed, Hamilton *Reminiscences*, pp. 207–11 (17-1185). Tenders a legal opinion refuting Charles Rhind's claim to the Turkish horses, and reports his efforts to persuade Rhind to relinquish them.
Apr 18	*From Samuel Delucenna Ingham.* *190*
[Apr 18]	*Memorandum of interviews with Samuel Delucenna Ingham and John Branch.* *190*
Apr 18	*From Llewellyn Jones.* *191*
Apr 18	From John Thomson Mason. ALS, DLC (39). Submits a memorandum showing the ease of filling Texas with legal emigrants under Mexican land grant policy.
Apr 18	Temporary commission for William Pope Duval as governor of Florida Territory. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1188).
Apr 18	Remission of fine and costs and release from imprisonment for gambler William Goss. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1190; T967-1).
Apr 19	*To Andrew Jackson Donelson.* *192*
Apr 19	*From John Branch.* *192*
Apr 19	*To John Branch.* *193*
Apr 19	*From John Branch.* *193*
Apr 19	*From Samuel Delucenna Ingham.* *194*

Apr 19	From John Branch. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits Navy lieutenant James L. Lardner's commission for signature and explains his seniority ranking.	
Apr 19	*From Henry Eckford.*	*195*
Apr 19	*From Samuel Swartwout.*	*196*
Apr 20	*To Samuel Delucenna Ingham.*	*197*
Apr 20	*To John Branch.*	*199*
Apr 20	*To Andrew Jackson Donelson.*	*200*
Apr 20	*To Henry Eckford.*	*201*
Apr 20	From John H. Haight. ADS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1243). Asks remission of his fine for small fraud and release from prison on finishing his sentence. Approved by AJ Apr 28.	
Apr 20	*From Edward Livingston.*	*202*
Apr 20	From John Peter Van Ness. ADS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1307). Argues that Josias Simpson and all common gamblers deserve at least the same clemency as Jacob Dixon.	
Apr 20	*From Hugh Lawson White.*	*202*
Apr 21	*To Llewellyn Jones.*	*203*
Apr 21	*To Levi Woodbury.*	*204*
Apr 21	From Samuel Delucenna Ingham. ANS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1206). Refers the case of the coastwise schooner *Carolina Marion*, seized for transporting slaves without the required manifest, to the president's pardoning power. Release ordered by AJ Apr 22.	
Apr 21	Approval of Navy midshipman Charles Sperry's court-martial and sentence of dismissal for disobeying orders and unofficerlike conduct. ANS, DNA-RG 125 (M273-26).	
Apr 22	*To Samuel Delucenna Ingham.*	*204*
Apr 22	From John Cole. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M1372-1). Requests a passport for a trip to Europe and offers to make AJ a pair of boots.	
Apr 22	Remission of fine and forfeiture of the schooner *Carolina Marion*, seized for a technical violation of the laws against the slave trade. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1204; T967-1).	
Apr 23	*To James Alexander Hamilton.*	*205*
Apr 23	*To Samuel Jackson Hays.*	*206*
Apr 23	*To John Rhea.*	*209*
Apr 23	From Bela Edgerton et al. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommend Calvin K. Averill for commissioner to survey the Northeast boundary.	
Apr 23	From John S. Missroon. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M148–67). Asks to have the same seniority as other midshipmen of his warrant date, his passage of examinations being delayed by eighteen months' sea duty on the *Hudson*.	
Apr 23	From Henry C. Tucker. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Applies for a Revolutionary Army pension.	
Apr 24	*To John Coffee.*	*210*
Apr 24	Aaron Fitzgerald to Andrew Jackson Donelson. ALS, DLC (17-1225). New York pensioner requests an office. Endorsed by AJ.	

Apr 25 *To Hardy Murfree Cryer.* *212*
Apr 25 From John M. Moore. ALS, DNA-RG 49 (17-1236). LC, DNA-RG 49 (M25-26). Encloses Gideon Fitz's Mar 26 recommendation of Henry Higginbotham to succeed Hiram G. Runnels as receiver of the Mount Salus, Miss., land office.
Apr 25 From John M. Moore. LC, DNA-RG 49 (M25-26). Explains why Stockley D. Hays's commission as register at Mount Salus (Clinton), Miss., was sent directly to the land office, and promises to send duplicate instructions to his home in Tennessee.
Apr 25 From Samuel Smith. ALS, DNA-RG 233 (17-1240). Testifies to John H. Barney's good character but declines to recommend anyone for office.
Apr 26 From John Patterson et al. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Recommend Nathaniel McLean for superintendent of the Cumberland Road.
Apr 26 From William Shaler. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M688-72). Thanks AJ for nephew Elias M. Stilwell's promised West Point cadetship and reports fears of political unrest in Cuba.
Apr 27 From John Branch. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits naval surgeons' commissions for signature.
Apr 27 From Levi Lincoln. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-70). States Massachusetts's interest in the Northeast boundary and asks for the arbitration record to lay before the legislature.
Apr 27 *From Levi Woodbury.* *216*
Apr 28 To Martin Van Buren. LS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1257). LC, DNA-RG 59 (M77-152). Orders William S. Fulton reimbursed $300 for expenses in reporting on Samuel Houston's rumored expedition against Texas.
Apr 28 *From John Coffee.* *216*
Apr 28 From Daniel L. Dunscomb. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M688-70). Recommends his ward William J. B. Edmondson for appointment to West Point and pledges Virginia's unwavering political support.
[cApr 28] From Samuel A. Hutchins. D, DNA-RG 59 (17-1253). Begs release from prison and remission of his court costs for rioting. Approved by AJ Apr 28.
[cApr 28] From James Simms. D, DNA-RG 59 (17-1249). Begs release from prison and remission of his court costs for rioting. Approved by AJ Apr 28.
Apr 28 Release from imprisonment and remission of costs for rioters James Simms and Samuel A. Hutchins. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1248; T967-1).
Apr 28 From James Alderman Pinney. ADS, DNA-RG 15 (M804-565). Submits an appeal to grant Samuel Clark a Revolutionary pension.
Apr 28 Remission of $30 fine and release for John H. Haight on completion of his sentence for an $8.50 fraud and payment of costs. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1242; T967-1).
Apr 29 *To Hugh Lawson White.* *220*
Apr 29 From Benjamin Bailey et al. Copy, CU-BANC (17-1262). Urge

	replacing Brooklyn naval storekeeper Tunis Q. Craven with Peter W. Spicer on party grounds.	
Apr 29	From John Reynolds. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-70). Gives notice of Hiram Rountree's appointment as commissioner to run the northern boundary line of Illinois.	
Apr 30	From Jesse Duncan Elliott. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Recommends Army paymaster Thomas Wright for transfer to St. Louis.	
Apr 30	From M. Scott. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Asks to be appointed superintendent of the Cumberland Road.	
Apr	*From Spencer Darwin Pettis.*	*222*
May 1	*To Levi Woodbury.*	*224*
May 1	From Albert Barrows et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-12). Request John D. Craig's removal and Thomas P. Jones's reinstatement as Patent Office superintendent.	
May 1	From John Branch. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits naval purser Andrew J. Watson's commission for signature.	
May 2	To Thomas Handy Gilliss. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1270). Copy, DNA-RG 45 (M124-128). Appoints him acting fourth auditor during Amos Kendall's absence.	
May 2	*To William W. Gray.*	*224*
May 2	*To Peter Worthington Spicer.*	*225*
May 2	From John Branch. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits naval purser McKean Buchanan's commission for signature.	
May 2	From Robert Andrews Long. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Asks to be appointed cadet at West Point.	
May 2	Samuel Rucker Donelson to Thomas Jefferson Donelson. ALS, DLC (39). Reports local and family news, including word of the Cabinet's resignation.	
May 3	From John Branch. LS partial facsimile and printed extract, R & R Enterprises, November 2006 sale, item 79 (mAJs). Asks authority to purchase land adjoining the Norfolk navy yard. Approved by AJ May 4.	
May 3	*From John Coffee.*	*225*
May 3	From John H. Haight. ADS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1316). Asks that his Apr 28 pardon be extended to cover remission of costs, which he is unable to pay. Approved by AJ May 9.	
May 3	*From James Alexander Hamilton.*	*226*
May 3	From James Alexander Hamilton. Printed, Hamilton *Reminiscences*, pp. 216–17 (17-1275). Informs AJ of Charles Rhind's plan to sail with Henry Eckford and help him sell warships to Turkey, and suggests the urgency of the *John Adams* preceding them.	
May 3	From Reuben Post. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M873-55). Recommends John McDuell for a clerkship.	
[May 3]	From Richard Shackleford. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Applies for an Army pension.	
May 4	To James Eakin. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1276). Appoints him acting second auditor during William B. Lewis's absence.	
May 4	From John Branch. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits	

	Thomas Morris's report on his interview with executed pirate Charles Gibbs, and informs that copies of Gibbs's identifying pirate tattoo will be circulated to Navy commanders.	
May 4	To James Alexander Hamilton. LS, NN (17-1277). Draft by Van Buren, DLC (39). Hamilton *Reminiscences*, p. 218. Directs him to interview James Coggeshall and report on the confidential disclosures made to him by Charles Gibbs.	
May 4	From George D. Miller. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Applies for an Army pension.	
May 4	From William M. Thompson. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Asks to be appointed military storekeeper.	
May 5	*To Andrew Jackson Donelson.*	*227*
May 5	From Washington Cassine. DS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1379). Prays release from imprisonment and remission of his fine and costs for larceny. Approved by AJ May 18.	
May 5	From James Alexander Hamilton. Printed, Hamilton *Reminiscences*, p. 218 (17-1296). Reports the resolution of the controversy with Charles Rhind over the Turkish horses, and hopes Hugh L. White will accept the War Department.	
May 5	From Jesse Waln. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-25). Asks to be appointed consul at Tangier or dispatch bearer to Europe.	
May 5	From Betsy Ware. DS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1352). Asks for a remission of her fine and costs for larceny and release from imprisonment. Approved by AJ May 9.	
May 5	Check to Michael Anthony Giusta for $500.44. DS, DLC (39).	
May 5	Check to self for $250. DS, DLC (39).	
May 6	*From William Carroll.*	*234*
May 6	Remission of fines for gambler Josias Simpson and release from imprisonment on condition of paying court costs. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1298; T967-1).	
May 7	*To William Berkeley Lewis.*	*235*
May 7	*From Alfred Balch.*	*236*
May 7	From Joseph L. Kuhn. ALS copy, DNA-RG 125 (M273-27). Protests the stoppage of his pay as Marine paymaster without first bringing suit on his accounts.	
[May 9]	*From Charles Richard Vaughan.*	*236*
[May 9]	*To Charles Richard Vaughan.*	*237*
May 9	From John Krems. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M567-62). Asks to be appointed sutler at Fort Delaware.	
May 9	From Daniel Steenrod. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Recommends Jonas Thompson for superintendent of the Cumberland Road.	
May 9	From William. H. Welch. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Submits an Indian land conveyance for approval.	
[cMay 9]	*Memorandum on Giacomo Raggi.*	*238*
May 9	Remission of court costs and unconditional release from imprisonment for John H. Haight, convicted of a minor fraud. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1314; T967-1).	
May 10	*To Hardy Murfree Cryer.*	*239*

May 10	*To Mary Ann Eastin.*	*240*
May 10	From David Jewett Baker. ALS, DNA-RG 107 (M222-29). Says Illinoisans want the Cumberland Road west of Vandalia routed to Alton, not St. Louis.	
[cMay 11]	To John Branch. Extract, *The Flying Quill*, 1964 (17-1337). Proposes nominating dismissed naval purser William P. Zantzinger for reappointment at the next Congress.	
May 11	From John Branch. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Says he has told William P. Zantzinger of AJ's decision to nominate him for naval purser at the next Congress.	
May 11	From Dexter Hungerford. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Supports Ephraim Wood for an Army pension.	
May 11	From David Shelby. ALS, DNA-RG 77 (17-1347). Wishes to resign as West Point cadet and be reappointed next year.	
May 11	Check to Daniel Todd Patterson for $200. DS, DLC (39).	
May 11	Remission of Betsy Ware's fine and costs for larceny and order for her release. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1351; T967-1).	
May 12	*From John Branch.*	*243*
May 12	From John Boyle. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Informs AJ of John Branch's retirement from the Navy Department.	
May 12	To John Boyle. ALS, DLC (73). LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1355). Appoints him acting secretary of the Navy until Levi Woodbury arrives.	
May 12	To James Bonaparte Thornton. AN, DNA-RG 217 (17-1356). Asks why suit has not been brought against delinquent Marine paymaster Joseph L. Kuhn.	
May 12	From Noyes Darling et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-17). Connecticut legislators recommend Erastus Osborn for marshal.	
May 12	From John Donelson. ALS, DLC (39). Reports his westward progress toward Fort Smith, Ark.	
May 12	From John M. Moore. LC, DNA-RG 49 (M25-26). *TPUS*, 12:288. Recommends moving the Monroe, Mich., land office to White Pigeon Prairie.	
May 13	*To John Coffee.*	*243*
May 13	From Ethan Baldwin et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1398). Recommend mercy for penitent youthful felon James McDaniel. Approved by AJ May 19.	
[May 14]	*To Andrew Jackson Jr.*	*248*
May 14	Check to Andrew Jackson Jr. for $600. DS, DLC (39).	
May 15	From Mavin Ruscoe. ALS, TxU (mAJs). Offers a poetic tribute to Rachel Jackson.	
May 16	*To Andrew Jackson Jr.*	*250*
May 16	From Richard Beverley Kennon. ALS copy, DNA-RG 45 (M148-68). Protests his rejection by a Navy examining board for promotion from assistant to full surgeon.	
May 17	*From John Macpherson Berrien.*	*250*
May 17	From John Boyle. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Transmits William P. Zantzinger's request for the correspondence about his reappointment as naval purser.	

May 17	From Samuel Power. LS, DNA-RG 94 (M567-63). Transmits the annual report of the Pennsylvania militia.	
May 17	From Charles John Stuart Wilson. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M567-65). Requests a commission in the Army or Navy.	
May 18	*To Andrew Jackson Jr.*	*251*
May 18	From John Boyle. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Transmits William P. Zantzinger's court-martial record and his claim for reappointment.	
May 18	*From James Alexander Hamilton.*	*252*
May 18	Remission of fine and costs for larceny and discharge from confinement for Washington Cassine. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1377; T967-1).	
May 19	*To Nicholas Philip Trist.*	*253*
May 19	From George Bisset. DS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1543). Prays the release of the British barque *Mary Hope*, seized at New Orleans for landing Jamaican passenger William Robertson's servant in ignorant violation of the law against slave importation.	
May 19	From Elijah Hayward. LC, DNA-RG 49 (17-1391). Says the rejection of Mr. Murdaugh's Virginia military bounty land claim was his own fault for submitting the wrong warrant.	
May 19	Pardon for young felon James McDaniel. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1396; T967-1).	
May 20	*To Martin Van Buren.*	*253*
[May 20]	From Sands Raymond. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Applies for an Army pension.	
[cMay 21]	To Unknown. Draft by AJ Donelson, DLC (73; 17-0099). Accuses John Branch of falsely denying his role in arranging the Turkish mission and relieving William Bainbridge, and of recommending James Barron for command of the Philadelphia navy yard "as a peace offering to Tazewell."	
[cMay 21]	Drafts by Martin Van Buren and Andrew Jackson Donelson of a May 25 *Globe* defense of the consistency of AJ's internal improvements policy. ADs, DLC (73).	
May 21	From Isaac Perkins et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-21). Recommend Charles Shepard for marshal in Connecticut.	
May 21	*From Tuskeneah.*	*254*
May 21	Andrew Jackson Donelson to John Henry Eaton. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M567-63). Transmits the annual report of the Pennsylvania militia.	
May 22	*To James Alexander Hamilton.*	*256*
May 22	*From Francis Wells Armstrong.*	*257*
May 22	*From James Alexander Hamilton.*	*258*
May 22	From Andrew Lockhart & Co. LS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1546). Enclose George Bisset's May 19 petition for release of the barque *Mary Hope*. Approved by AJ June 6.	
May 22	From McJilton & Cannon. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-128). Appeal for a pardon for Navy deserter William Brown to relieve his suffering family.	
May 23	*To Nelson Davidson.*	*259*

[May 23] From Nelson Davidson. ALS, DLC (73). Submits and defends his bill for $214 in carriage repairs.

May 23 To Joseph Bonaparte. LS, MWalA (17-1409). Introduces Maria Cecil Gist Gratz, wife of Benjamin Gratz.

May 23 To Edward Bishop Dudley, Owen Holmes, and Joseph Alston Hill. Printed, Raleigh *Star, and North Carolina State Gazette*, Jun 16 (mAJs; 17-1410). Declines an invitation to Wilmington, N.C., as duties will not permit a summer southern tour.

May 23 To Nicholas I, Emperor of Russia. LC, DNA-RG 59; Draft, DLC (17-1411). Announces minister John Randolph's return to the U.S. on account of ill health.

May 23 To Martin Van Buren. AN, DNA-RG 59 (17-1414). Requests a commission for Levi Woodbury as Secretary of the Navy.

May 23 Temporary commission for Levi Woodbury as Secretary of the Navy. DS, DLC; LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1416).

May 23 From Robert Fairchild. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-27). Recommends Norris Wilcox for marshal in Connecticut.

May 23 From James Alexander Hamilton. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-70). Transmits James Coggeshall's deposition disclosing the pirate Charles Gibbs's connections with American merchants and recommends further inquiry.

[May 23] From William Robertson. DS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1559). Prays the return of his slave James Murray, seized for illegal importation on the barque *Mary Hope*.

May 23 Burnet A. Crawford to Edward Livingston. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1561). Forwards William Robertson's appeal for the return of his slave. Approved by AJ Jun 6.

May 24 *To Nelson Davidson.* *259*

May 24 From Nelson Davidson. ALS, DLC (73). Again defends his bill for carriage repairs. Endorsed by AJ to pay whatever another coachmaker deems fair.

May 24 From Francis Wells Armstrong. ALS, DLC (39). Reports Hugh L. White's growing willingness to accept the War Department.

[May 24] From Robert Jefferson. D, DNA-RG 59 (17-1428). Prays remission of his $10 fine for perjury and release from imprisonment. Approved by AJ May 25.

May 24 From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits naval purser Grenville C. Cooper's duplicate commission for signature.

May 24 Temporary commission for Edward Livingston as Secretary of State. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1418).

May 25 *From Susan Wheeler Decatur.* *260*

May 25 *To Levi Woodbury.* *261*

May 25 *To Emily Tennessee Donelson.* *262*

May 25 From Isaac Bartlett. ALS, NjP (17-1419). Washington *Globe*, Oct 18. Values Nelson Davidson's repairs on AJ's carriage at $150 or less.

May 25 *From Anthony Butler.* *263*

May 25 From James Bonaparte Thornton. ALS, DNA-RG 59

(M639-21). Recommends Charles Shepard for marshal in Connecticut.

[cMay 25] From William Meeteer et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1436). Ask a pardon for Thomas Ward who has served eight of his ten years' sentence for mail robbery, citing his ill health, penitence, and previous pardon of his accomplice John Amonheizer.

[cMay 25] From Thomas Ward. DS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1433). Appeals for a pardon.

[cMay 25] From Gabriel Duvall and Elias Glenn. DS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1438). Endorse the appeal to pardon Thomas Ward. Approved by AJ May 25.

May 25 Pardon for mail robber Thomas Ward and order for his release on payment of court costs. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1432; T967-1).

May 25 Remission of fine and costs and release from imprisonment for perjurer Robert Jefferson. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1427; T967-1).

May 26 *To John Coffee.* *268*

May 26 *To Michael Anthony Giusta.* *269*

May 26 *To John Randolph.* *270*

[May 26] To Andrew Stevenson. ANS, DLC (39). Envelope addressed to Stevenson. Endorsed by AJ noting correspondence with John Randolph sent to him.

May 26 From Mahlon Dickerson. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-12). Recommends William N. Jeffers for a foreign appointment.

[cMay 26] From Benjamin Kidd Morsell et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1457). Recommend Washington justice of the peace Henry Wertz for reappointment. Reappointed by AJ May 26.

May 26 Andrew Jackson Donelson to Edward Livingston. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1450). Requests a commission for Henry Wertz.

May 26 Temporary commission for Henry Wertz as Washington, D.C., justice of the peace. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1460).

May 26 From James S. Rolland. DS, DLC (39). Receipt for Graves W. Steele's purchase of a gin brush for AJ.

May 26 From William Rossell. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-12). Recommends William N. Jeffers for office.

May 26 Grant and assignation of a Choctaw homeland west of the Mississippi, pursuant to the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek. LC, DNA-RG 75 (M21-7). Copy, DNA-RG 46 (17-1443). Copy, DNA-RG 75 (M234-184). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 304–5 (Serial 245).

May 26 Temporary commission for Robert Clarke as Washington, D.C., justice of the peace. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1445).

May 26 Check to Michael Anthony Giusta for $180. DS, DLC (39).

May 26 Check to William Berkeley Lewis for $1400. DS, DLC (39).

May 26 William Pope Duval to Edward Livingston. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-70). Florida governor requests leave of absence to attend to business in Kentucky. Endorsed by AJ granting three months' leave.

May 27 From Nelson Davidson. ADS, NjP (17-1461). Washington *Globe*, Oct 18. Receipt for $180 for carriage repairs.

May 28	*From Dehahuit.*	*271*
May 28	*From John Henry Eaton.*	*271*
May 28	From Philip Jacobs. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Asks to be appointed an Army sutler.	
May 28	*From "Oto Cho" (Ishtehotopa) et al.*	*273*
May 28	Andrew Jackson Donelson to Richard C. Allen. Printed, Tallahassee *Floridian & Advocate*, Jul 28, 1831 (mAJs). Printed, DNA-RG 46 (17-1463). Returns Allen's Feb 3, 1831, letter to Hugh L. White, accusing Joseph M. White of scheming to defeat William P. Duval's reappointment as Florida governor.	
May 28	Thomas Finley to Edward Livingston. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (17-1514). Reports that pardoned mail robber Thomas Ward cannot pay court costs. AJ orders his release Jun 3.	
May 29	*To John Coffee.*	*275*
May 29	From Henry Ashton. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-128). Urges reinstating Thomson Mason, lately removed as agent to preserve Florida naval timber reserves, to repair his damaged fortune and reputation.	
May 29	*From David W. Haley.*	*276*
May 29	From William Nesbit Hood. ALS, DNA-RG 75 (17-1475). Asks AJ not to approve Potawatomi John B. Chandonnait's underpriced sale of his treaty land reserve.	
[May 30]	From Joseph Barlow. ADS, DLC (37; 17-1483). Asks for release from prison and suspension of the judgment against him until the Supreme Court rules whether he defrauded the revenue by claiming drawback on exports of semi-refined sugar.	
May 30	*From John Coffee.*	*277*
May 30	*From John Randolph.*	*278*
May 30	*From Charles Rhind.*	*279*
May 30	From Charles Pendleton Tutt. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-128). Protests the Navy Department's rejection of his $15,000 draft for expenses of the West Indian squadron. Referred by AJ to Woodbury for report.	
May 30	From Aaron Vail. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M567-65). Asks to be appointed adjutant general of the District of Columbia militia.	
May 31	*From Garland B. Terry et al.*	*289*
[May]	From Henry Anderson. DS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0422). Petitions for remission of his fine and costs for rioting, pleading youth, indigence, and good character. Approved by AJ Jul 26.	
May	From Daniel Garrison, William Brown, and Joseph Kille. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-12). Recommend William N. Jeffers for chargé d'affaires.	
Jun 1	*To Hugh Lawson White.*	*281*
[Jun 2]	*From John Overton.*	*282*
Jun 2	*To John Rhea.*	*282*
Jun 2	Temporary commission for John Ralli as consul at Odessa. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (17-1494).	
Jun 2	Temporary commission for Henry Schielin as consul at Taganrog, Russia. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (17-1495).	
Jun 2	Check to Martin Van Buren for $643.80. DS, DLC (39).	

Jun 2	John Jolly and Black Coat to John Henry Eaton. LS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-77). Western Cherokees complain that their agent withholds promised tools and services and has removed interpreter James Rogers. AJ orders Rogers restored "forthwith."	
Jun 3	*From Robert Mayo.*	*283*
Jun 3	Remission of court costs and unconditional release for pardoned mail robber Thomas Ward. DS, William C. Cook (mAJs). LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1512; T967-1).	
Jun 3	*John Rhea to James Monroe.*	*286*
Jun 4	From Joseph Felker. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Applies for military bounty land.	
Jun 4	*From George Rockingham Gilmer.*	*288*
Jun 4	From John Reynolds. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-70). Recommends John Messinger for commissioner to run the northern boundary line of Illinois.	
Jun 4	John Overton to John Claybrooke. ALS, THi (17-1520). Discusses his health and travel plans and asks aid in purchasing slaves. Franked by AJ.	
Jun 5	*From John Stoney et al.*	*291*
Jun 5	From Jesse Burgess Thomas. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M688-77). Recommends Joseph Mozier for cadet at West Point.	
Jun 6	To Anastasio Bustamante. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1526). Compliments departing Mexican minister José María Tornel.	
Jun 6	*To Samuel Delucenna Ingham.*	*292*
Jun 6	From Simeon S. Goodwin. ALS, DNA-RG 77 (17-1527). Louisville & Portland Canal directors request that removal of Ohio River obstructions begin below rather than above the falls. So ordered by AJ.	
Jun 6	From John Jones. ALS, DLC (17-1533). Boston *Evening Transcript*, Jun 24; Washington *Globe*, Jun 29. Presents a wrought shell comb and an engraved portrait of AJ.	
Jun 6	*From Louis McLane.*	*292*
Jun 6	*From John Randolph.*	*293*
Jun 6	Check to Michael Anthony Giusta for $550.11. DS, DLC (39).	
Jun 6	Remission of forfeiture of the British barque *Mary Hope*, seized for unintentional violation of the ban on slave importations. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1542; T967-1).	
Jun 7	*From Joseph Bonaparte.*	*294*
Jun 7	*From Samuel Delucenna Ingham.*	*295*
Jun 7	Remission of $400 penalty and release from imprisonment on payment of costs for customs violator Anson Boyes. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1554; T967-1).	
Jun 7	Remission of William Robertson's forfeiture of his illegally imported slave James Murray on condition he be returned to Jamaica. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1558; T967-1).	
Jun 8	*To Samuel Delucenna Ingham.*	*295*
Jun 8	From William Nicholson Jeffers. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M219-2). Prefers an appointment in Guatemala to one at Buenos Aires.	
[Jun 8]	From Samuel Martin. D, DNA-RG 59 (17-1568). Prays release	

	from confinement and remission of his fine for assault and battery, which he is unable to pay. Approved by AJ June 8.	
Jun 8	Remittance of fines and costs and release for prisoner Samuel Martin. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1566; T967-1).	
[Jun 8]	Check to self for $200. DS, DLC (58; 17-1565).	
Jun 9	To Domingo Caicedo. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1572). Announces the return from Colombia of U.S. minister Thomas P. Moore.	
Jun 9	To James Thompson. LC, DNA-RG 59 (17-1573). Appoints him acting third auditor during Peter Hagner's absence.	
Jun 9	*From Robert Butler.*	*296*
Jun 9	*From Samuel Delucenna Ingham.*	*299*
Jun 9	From Saint Francisville railroad commissioners. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Request the services of a topographical engineer.	
Jun 10	From Mary Barry. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-128). Requests reimbursement for her husband naval gunner Thomas W. Barry's expenses in repairing his U.S.-owned Washington residence before his transfer to New York.	
Jun 10	From Susan Wheeler Decatur. ALS, DLC (39). Asks AJ to call before she leaves town.	
[Jun 10]	*From George Reese et al.*	*300*
Jun 10	From Hopkin Reynolds. ALS, DNA-RG 15 (M804-148). Presents John Barnes's application for a Revolutionary pension.	
Jun 11	*From James Gadsden.*	*302*
Jun 11	From James Alexander Hamilton. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0334). Urges AJ not to discharge prisoner Joseph Barlow, suspected of numerous customs frauds.	
Jun 12	*From Mary Ann Eastin.*	*303*
Jun 12	From John McIlvaine. ALS, DNA-RG 92 (17-1576). Complains of nepotism and waste in work on the Delaware breakwater, and hails AJ's reelection candidacy.	
Jun 13	*From William Carroll.*	*305*
Jun 13	From Stockley Donelson Hays. ALS, DNA-RG 49 (18-0005). Informs that surveyor Gideon Fitz has executed a corrected bond and awaits instructions to begin work.	
Jun 13	From John McCracken Robinson. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-16). Recommends John Messinger for commissioner to run the northern boundary of Illinois.	
Jun 13	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits naval warrants for signature.	
Jun 14	*To Andrew Jackson Donelson.*	*307*
Jun 14	Check to Andrew Jackson Donelson for $1000 (to purchase slaves from Llewellyn Jones). DS facsimile, Margaret G. Myers, *A Financial History of the United States* (1970), p. 84 (18-0016).	
Jun 14	*To John Stoney et al.*	*307*
Jun 14	Temporary commission for William Nicholson Jeffers as chargé d'affaires to Central America. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0017).	
Jun 15	*From John Macpherson Berrien.*	*309*

Jun 15 *To John Macpherson Berrien.* *310*
Jun 15 From Joseph Barlow. ADS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0336). Renews his May 30 request for release from imprisonment, pleading innocence of intent to defraud the revenue. Refused by AJ, noting James A. Hamilton's Jun 11 objection.
Jun 15 From Benjamin B. Cooper. ALS, DLC (39). Proposes to purchase a stud horse from AJ for the New Jersey horsebreeders' association.
Jun 15 *From John Henry Eaton.* *311*
Jun 15 *From Hugh Lawson White.* *312*
Jun 15 Appointment of Enoch Reynolds as acting second comptroller during James B. Thornton's absence. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0029).
Jun 15 Temporary commission for Hore Browse Trist as surveyor general of public lands in Louisiana. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0030).
Jun 16 To John Boyle. Photostat of LS, DLC (73). LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0031). Appoints him acting secretary of the Navy during Levi Woodbury's absence.
Jun 16 To John Jones. LS, THer (18-0032). Boston *Evening Transcript*, Jun 24; Washington *Globe*, Jun 29. Cover, Written Word Autographs, Jun 2009, lot 46 (mAJs). Thanks him for the gift of a wrought shell comb and applauds domestic manufactures.
Jun 16 From Philip Grymes Randolph. LC, DNA-RG 107 (M127-2). Proposes a rearrangement of War Department offices to make room for the GLO commissioner.
Jun 16 James Biddle to Levi Woodbury. LS and LS copy (signature removed), DNA-RG 45 (M125-160). Requests a replacement for Mediterranean fleet surgeon Lewis Heermann, forced ashore by illness. Endorsed by AJ to wait on further news of Heermann.
Jun 16 William Lawrence to John Henry Eaton. LS, DNA-RG 94 (M567-62). Tenders his resignation as Army colonel. Accepted by AJ Jul 15.
Jun 17 From William Taylor Barry. ALS, DLC (39). Encloses John W. Wright's Jun 11 letter to him (DLC-39) thanking AJ for a $50 check to aid fire victims in Fayetteville, N.C.
Jun 17 From William Findlay. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-13). Recommends Henry Kenyon for consul at Tripoli or Tangier.
Jun 18 *From Andrew Jackson Donelson.* *313*
Jun 18 From James Fenner. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-10). Recommends Thomas L. Halsey Jr. for chargé d'affaires at Buenos Aires.
Jun 18 Appointment of Philip Grymes Randolph as acting secretary of war until Eaton's successor is appointed. DS, DNA-RG 107 (M221-111). LC, DNA-RG 59; ADS draft, NjP (18-0039).
Jun 19 *To John Coffee.* *314*
Jun 19 *From Worden Pope.* *316*
Jun 20 From John Boyle. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Reports that the Navy Department has honored Charles P. Tutt's $15,000 draft for the West Indian squadron.

Jun 20	*From John Forsyth.*	*319*
Jun 20	*From George Rockingham Gilmer.*	*320*
Jun 20	*From Samuel Delucenna Ingham.*	*324*
Jun 20	From Edward Livingston. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0066). LC, DNA-RG 59 (M40-22). Recommends pardoning young mail robber Henry B. Cox, likely to be corrupted rather than reformed by further imprisonment at New Orleans. Approved by AJ Jun 21.	
Jun 20	From John Norvell. ALS and Copy, DNA-RG 59 (M639-19). Requests Joseph Ray's reappointment as consul at Pernambuco, Brazil, to help recover his seized property.	
Jun 20	From John S. Porter. ALS, DNA-RG 15 (M804-1385). Asks AJ's help in securing a Revolutionary pension for Henry Hutto, whose papers the War Department lost.	
Jun 20	From Elisha Reynolds Potter. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-10). Recommends Thomas L. Halsey Jr. for chargé d'affaires at Buenos Aires.	
Jun 21	To Asbury Dickins. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0070). Appoints him acting secretary of the Treasury until Louis McLane arrives.	
Jun 21	*From Samuel Delucenna Ingham.*	*325*
Jun 21	From Richard Beverley Kennon. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M148-68). Asks AJ to give Woodbury his proofs that an examining board wrongly denied his promotion to Navy surgeon.	
Jun 21	Pardon for mail robber Henry Bainbridge Cox, in light of his youth, good deportment, and completion of half his ten-year sentence. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0056; T967- 1).	
Jun 21	Andrew Jackson Jr. to Peter Guerrant Moseley. DS, DLC (39). Draft on AJ for $2,000.	
Jun 22	*From John Macpherson Berrien.*	*327*
Jun 22	*To John Macpherson Berrien.*	*327*
Jun 22	*To John Campbell, Thomas Lilly Smith, Philip Grymes Randolph, and William Berkeley Lewis.*	*328*
Jun 22	*From John Campbell.*	*329*
Jun 22	*From William Berkeley Lewis.*	*330*
Jun 22	*From Thomas Lilly Smith.*	*330*
Jun 22	*From Philip Grymes Randolph.*	*331*
Jun 22	To Mary Carroll Caton. LS, John M. Taylor (18-0079). Regrets that there is no present diplomatic vacancy for Charles C. Harper and gives regards to Charles Carroll.	
Jun 23	*To Andrew Jackson Donelson.*	*332*
Jun 23	*To Samuel Delucenna Ingham.*	*333*
Jun 23	*To Andrew Jackson Jr.*	*333*
Jun 23	*To Martin Van Buren.*	*334*
Jun 23	*From Anthony Butler.*	*335*
Jun 23	From William Douglass. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Asks to be appointed Indian agent.	
Jun 23	From Chittenden Lyon. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-16). Recommends John Messinger for commissioner to run the northern boundary line of Illinois.	

Jun 23 *From John Freeman Schermerhorn.* *338*
Jun 23 From Samuel Emerson Smith. LS, DNA-RG 76; Copy, DNA-RG 46 (18-0087). "Northeast Boundary," pp. 64–65. Transmits resolutions of the Maine legislature rejecting the Northeast boundary arbitration award, and asks the federal government's intentions.
Jun 23 Allen McLane to Robert Mayo. ALS (at Jun 23, 1832), DLC (40). Censures Eaton's folly in descending into public controversy with Ingham.
Jun 24 *To Susan Wheeler Decatur.* *340*
Jun 24 *To Edward Livingston.* *342*
Jun 24 To [Edward Livingston]. DS, DNA-RG 59 (T1-6). Requires U.S. consul at Paris Isaac C. Barnet to explain his withholding money belonging to Christopher C. Yates.
Jun 24 From Micajah Green Lewis Claiborne. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M148-68). Gives family news and explains that his brother's sudden death has delayed his reporting to the frigate *Potomac*.
Jun 24 From Nicholas I, Emperor of Russia. DS and French translation, DNA-RG 59 (18-0098). Announces the death of his brother, Grand Duke Constantine.
Jun 24 From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Recommends not restoring William B. Everett, discharged from the Navy for refusing his midshipman's examination.
[cJun 25] *From Alfred Balch.* *342*
Jun 25 From Edward Livingston. ALS, NjP (mAJs; 18-0104). Wonders at William C. Rives's recent silence on claims negotiations with France, and requests passage on a Navy ship to Brazil for departing Russian diplomat Jules de Wallenstein. Approved by AJ.
[Jun 25] From Nathan Lufborough. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M688-76). Requests a West Point cadetship for his son Nathan Lufborough Jr. Referred favorably by AJ.
Jun 25 From Thomas Jefferson Rusk. ALS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-113). Copy, DNA-RG 46 (18-0107). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 494–95 (Serial 245). Recommends enrolling Cherokees individually for emigration.
Jun 25 From Peter Dumont Vroom. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M567-59). Requests an extension of Army engineer lieutenant William Cook's furlough to continue his work on New Jersey internal improvements. Approved by AJ.
Jun 26 *To William Berkeley Lewis.* *344*
Jun 26 To [Richard Smith]. ANS, Ira & Larry Goldberg Coins & Collectibles, Nov 18, 2006, sale (mAJs). Directs the BUS cashier to honor checks drawn by William B. Lewis on AJ's account during his absence from Washington.
Jun 26 From Pemberton Waddell. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). West Point cadet discusses his being reported deficient by the academic board.
Jun 27 *To John Christmas McLemore.* *345*
Jun 27 From Walter Raleigh Danforth. ALS, DLC (39). Recommends David Thomas for postmaster at Providence, R.I.

Jun 27	From James Sproat Green. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M567-59). Asks that Lt. William Cook's furlough be extended to continue his work on New Jersey internal improvements.	
Jun 27	*From William Berkeley Lewis.*	*347*
Jun 27	From John Patton. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-128). Requests an appointment in the Navy Department.	
Jun 27	From Levi Woodbury. D, DLC (18-0126). LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Recommends against reversing purser William P. Zantzinger's court-martial and dismissal. Endorsed by AJ "cannot interfere."	
Jun 27	From Levi Woodbury. D, DNA-RG 125 (M273-25). LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Recommends against reversing Lieutenant Thomas S. Hamersley's court-martial and sentence of dismissal. Endorsed by AJ "the fiat to be carried into effect."	
Jun 27	Deed from Peter Guerrant Moseley for 250 acres in Wilson County, Tenn., sold to AJ for $2000. DS, DLC (40). Copy, TLWil-Deed Book N (18-0125). Registered Oct 12.	
Jun 28	*To Edward Livingston.*	*349*
Jun 28	*From John Randolph.*	*350*
Jun 28	From Garret Dorset Wall. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M567-59). Asks that Lt. William Cook's furlough be extended to continue his work on New Jersey internal improvements.	
Jun 28	From Levi Woodbury. ALS, DLC (39). Discusses candidates for a vacant Marine lieutenancy and proposes that chargé to Central America William N. Jeffers sail from Pensacola to avoid adverse winds.	
Jun 28	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Recommends against reconsidering Lt. Charles Ellery's court-martial and dismissal, despite the severe sentence.	
Jun 28	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Recommends reappointing resigned midshipman Levi Lincoln Jr., but with loss of seniority.	
Jun 28	James Alexander Hamilton to William Berkeley Lewis. ALS, DLC (39). Discusses Mary Ann Lewis's travel plans, the candidates for secretary of war, and the Eaton/Ingham affair, and urges AJ to visit the North.	
Jun 28	William D. Jones to Edward Livingston. ALS, DLC (39). Criticizes AJ's Ohio appointments including Elijah Hayward, and urges Morgan Neville for high office.	
Jun 29	*From William Berkeley Lewis.*	*351*
Jun 29	*From William Cabell Rives.*	*351*
Jun 29	From William Eyre Taylor, Oney S. Dameron, and Augustus Branda. Printed, *Norfolk and Portsmouth Herald*, Jul 6, 1831 (mAJs). Invite AJ to an Independence Day dinner sponsored by the Norfolk Volunteer Corps.	
Jun 30	*From Richard Gilliam Dunlap.*	*353*
Jun 30	*From Samuel Delucenna Ingham.*	*355*
Jun 30	*From Edward Livingston.*	*356*
Jun 30	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Presents his reports on the cases of William P. Zantzinger, Thomas S.	

	Hamersley, Charles Ellery, William B. Everett, and Levi Lincoln Jr.	
Jun	From William Anderson et al. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-7). Recommend Jeremiah Elkins for justice of the peace in Washington, D.C.	
Jun	From Elisabetta Mazzei Pini. Drafts, Archivio Filippo Mazzei, Pisa, Italy (mAJs). Translation, *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography* 63 (Jul 1955): 330–31. Asks AJ's aid in securing the money Thomas Jefferson owed her father Philip Mazzei against the claim of a spurious heir.	
Jul 1	To William Eyre Taylor, Oney S. Dameron, and Augustus Branda. Printed, *Norfolk and Portsmouth Herald*, Jul 6, 1831 (mAJs). *Nat. Intelligencer*, Jul 8 (18-0144). Thankfully declines invitation to the Norfolk Volunteer Corps' Independence Day dinner.	
Jul 1	*From John Henry Eaton.*	*358*
Jul 1	*From William Berkeley Lewis.*	*359*
Jul 1	*From Edward Livingston.*	*361*
Jul 1	From Montfort Stokes. LS copy, Nc (18-0145). Sends published copies of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence and other North Carolina Revolutionary resolves for the Library of Congress.	
Jul 1	From John Peter Van Ness. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-7). Recommends Jeremiah Elkins for justice of the peace in Washington, D.C.	
Jul 2	From John Campbell. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Recommends Herretston Herrendon for Creek subagent.	
Jul 2	From Jeriel Root. ALS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-434). Accuses Illinois Indian agents of stirring up the Indians and urges disbanding the Peoria subagency.	
Jul 3	*To Andrew Jackson Jr.*	*361*
Jul 3	*From David Burford.*	*363*
Jul 4	From Richard Elliott Parker. ALS, DLC-Woodbury Papers (mAJs). Recommends William Carter for a midshipman's appointment.	
Jul 4	*From Joshua Robb.*	*366*
Jul 6	From John Pemberton. ALS, DLC (39). ALS copy, PHi (18-0153). Introduces Charles Hedelius.	
Jul 6	From James Reeside. ALS, DNA-RG 127 (18-0155). Recommends Jacob Zeilin Jr. for Marine lieutenant.	
Jul 6	From Jacob Zeilin Jr. ALS, DNA-RG 127 (18-0157). Requests a commission in the Marines.	
Jul 6	Check to Michael Anthony Giusta for $888.30. ADS by William B. Lewis, DLC (39).	
Jul 7	From John K. Zeilin. ALS, DNA-RG 127 (18-0160). Urges his brother Jacob Zeilin Jr.'s claim to a Marine lieutenancy.	
Jul 7	Azariah Cutting Flagg to Martin Van Buren. ALS, DLC-Woodbury Papers (mAJs). Recommends John Clark for naval chaplain and applauds Methodists for not mixing religion with	

	Anti-Masonic politics, unlike Baptists and Presbyterians. Referred by AJ to Woodbury.	
Jul 7	*Nicholas Philip Trist to Samuel Delucenna Ingham.*	*367*
Jul 8	*To Mary Ann Eastin.*	*368*
Jul 8	*To Edward Livingston.*	*369*
Jul 8	From Simon Bernard. Copy, Service Historique de la Défense, Vincennes, France (18-0162). *Nat. Intelligencer*, Sep 15. Resigns from the Army to return to France and bids the U.S. a fond farewell.	
Jul 8	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits Marine lieutenant William E. Stark's commission for signature.	
Jul 9	To Simon Bernard. Copy, Service Historique de la Défense, Vincennes, France (18-0169). *Nat. Intelligencer*, Sep 15. Accepts Bernard's resignation from the Army and applauds the cause of liberty he goes to serve in France.	
Jul 9	*To Andrew Jackson Jr.*	*370*
Jul 9	*From John Coffee.*	*371*
Jul 9	Check for $2,000 to Richard Smith to pay Peter G. Moseley. DS, DLC (39).	
Jul 10	*To Andrew Jackson Donelson.*	*373*
Jul 10	*From Heckaton et al.*	*375*
Jul 11	*To Andrew Jackson Donelson.*	*378*
Jul 11	To Philip Grymes Randolph. NS, DNA-RG 107 (M222-29). Appoints John Robb acting chief clerk of the War Department on Randolph's resignation.	
Jul 11	*To Martin Van Buren.*	*380*
Jul 11	From James M. Campbell. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Asks to be appointed Indian subagent.	
Jul 11	From Andrew Jackson Crawford. ALS, DLC (39). Offers to purchase the Stockholder colt Sir Andrew for $500. Approved by AJ.	
[Jul 11]	Draft by Francis Preston Blair of the opening passage of a Jul 11 *Globe* editorial attacking Ingham. AN, DLC (39; 18-0175).	
Jul 12	From John Campbell. ALS, DLC-Woodbury Papers (mAJs). Urges a midshipman's appointment for William Carter.	
Jul 12	*From Joseph Evans Jenkins.*	*382*
Jul 12	From John Thomson Mason. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0199). *TPUS*, 12:308. Resigns as secretary of Michigan Territory.	
Jul 12	Temporary commission for Stevens Thomson Mason as secretary of Michigan Territory. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0201).	
Jul 12	From John Freeman Schermerhorn. ALS, NcD (18-0202). Recommends James E. Quall for naval chaplain.	
Jul 12	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits Navy lieutenant Charles H. McBlair's commission for signature.	
Jul 12	*Memorandum on Andrew M. Laub's testimony.*	*383*
[Jul 13]	*To Benjamin B. Cooper.*	*384*
Jul 13	From William Taylor Barry. LC, DNA-RG 28 (M601-47). Answers Mr. Atkinson's complaint concerning the advertising of unclaimed letters at the Philadelphia post office.	

Jul 13	From Blackman Coleman. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Recommends Samuel and Edward Mitchell for appointments among the Choctaws.	
Jul 13	From Constant Mathieu Eakin. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M567-60). Requests an appointment in the Army topographical engineers.	
Jul 13	From Israel Johnson. ALS, DNA-RG 15 (18-0204). Complains that his Revolutionary pension has stopped. Referred for Treasury action by AJ.	
Jul 13	From Mary Muir, John Davis, and Thomas Brannon. DS, DNA-RG 49 (18-0206). Ask AJ not to deliver their preemption land patents to attorney Amos Lane, who has defrauded them. Referred by AJ to the GLO with instructions for seeking recourse, the patents having already issued.	
Jul 13	Temporary commission for Jeremiah Elkins as justice of the peace in Washington, D.C. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0203).	
Jul 14	*To John Henry Eaton.*	*385*
Jul 14	To Philip Grymes Randolph. Abstract, DNA-RG 75 (M18-3). Orders the appointment of William Douglass to appraise the cattle of emigrating Choctaws.	
Jul 14	From William Pitt Preble. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M42-13). Announces his arrival at New York on his way to Washington.	
Jul 14	From George Winchester. ALS, DNA-RG 108 (M1635-2; 18-0210). Asks AJ to detail two more Army officers for work on the Baltimore and Susquehanna Railroad. Endorsed by AJ to comply.	
Jul 14	Check to Marshall Parks for $398.50 (for expenses at the Rip Raps). DS, DLC (39).	
Jul 15	*From John Macpherson Berrien.*	*385*
[Jul 15]	*To John Macpherson Berrien.*	*385*
Jul 15	*To George Rockingham Gilmer.*	*386*
Jul 15	From Simon Deloach. ALS, DLC (39). Asks AJ's help in securing a disabled veteran's pension.	
Jul 15	*From William Pope Duval.*	*387*
Jul 15	From Elijah Hayward. LC, DNA-RG 49 (M25-26). Asks to expand the GLO into rooms now occupied by the Army surgeon general and paymaster general.	
Jul 16	*To John Reynolds.*	*389*
Jul 16	*From Hector Craig.*	*390*
Jul 16	From Asher Phillips. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Requests an extension of his Army furlough.	
Jul 16	From Philip Grymes Randolph. LS, DNA-RG 108 (M1635-2; 18-0224). Proposes to accommodate the GLO by moving the paymaster general and surgeon general to new quarters. Approved by AJ.	
Jul 16	*From Martin Van Buren.*	*392*
Jul 16	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits passed midshipmen's warrants for signature.	
Jul 17	*From James Alexander Hamilton.*	*394*
Jul 17	From Elizabeth Jones Waters. ALS, DLC (39). Destitute widow	

of Revolutionary officer Richard Waters begs for money to prevent dispossession of her furniture.

Jul 18 *To Richard Gilliam Dunlap.* *395*

Jul 18 From Peter A. Carnes. ALS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-77). *TPUS*, 21:346–48. Accuses Western Cherokee agent George Vashon and Colonel Mathew Arbuckle of improperly refusing him a trader's license on pretext of his being a whiskey dealer, and of attempting to intimidate him by a show of armed force.

Jul 18 From Ezra Stiles Ely. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Recommends S. A. Wickes for assistant Army surgeon.

Jul 18 From John S. Stiles. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-129). Accuses Baltimore navy agent Isaac Phillips of misconduct and official oppression.

Jul 18 From Wiley Thompson. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Recommends James Meriwether for Indian emigration agent.

Jul 19 *From John Henry Eaton.* *401*

Jul 19 *To John Henry Eaton.* *403*

Jul 19 From Joseph Barlow. DS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0340). Repeats his May 30 plea for release from prison and remission of fine and costs for alleged customs fraud.

Jul 19 Joseph Barlow to Edward Livingston. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0342). Encloses his Jul 19 petition to AJ. Referred by AJ to James A. Hamilton.

Jul 19 From Robert Budd Gilchrist. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-9). Asks to be appointed district attorney in South Carolina.

[Jul 19] From George Warren Cross et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-9). Recommend Robert B. Gilchrist for district attorney in South Carolina.

Jul 19 Check to William Berkeley Lewis for $350. DS, DLC (39).

Jul 20 To José Francisco Morazán Quezada. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0239). Offers congratulations on his accession to the presidency of Central America.

Jul 20 To Roger Brooke Taney. ALS, DNA-RG 107 (M221-111). LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0240). Appoints him acting secretary of war until Lewis Cass arrives.

Jul 20 To Lawrence L. Van Kleeck. Draft, DLC (39). Acquits Van Kleeck of deliberately short-weighting coal deliveries to AJ and others, on evidence of statements from John Woolford (Jun 15), from Alexander Macomb, Christopher Andrews, and Southey Parker (Jul 15), and from Roger Jones to Van Kleeck (Jul 18).

[Jul 20] *Memorandum of interviews with John Branch, Samuel Delucenna Ingham, and John Macpherson Berrien.* *404*

Jul 20 *From Charles Gerrit De Witt.* *408*

Jul 20 From William Hawley. AN, DLC (39). Encloses Elizabeth J. Waters's letter of Jul 17. Endorsed by AJ to enquire through Hawley "if she is really an object of charity."

Jul 20 From Nathaniel Silsbee, Dudley Leavitt Pickman, and Robert Stone. LS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-129). Request a naval show of

	force to protect American traders at Sumatra and obtain restitution for the plunder of their ship *Friendship*. Referred by AJ to send the frigate *Potomac*.
Jul 20	Temporary commission for Roger Brooke Taney as attorney general. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0241).
Jul 21	*To James Gadsden.* *411*
Jul 21	To Roger Brooke Taney. D, DNA-RG 75 (M234-728). *Black Hawk War*, 2:110. Orders western Indian agents to report "*forthwith*" on Black Hawk's "invasion" of Illinois and to explain why they did not report before.
[Jul 21]	From Charles Austin et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-14). *TPUS*, 24:541–42. Recommend Romeo Lewis for marshal in Florida Territory.
Jul 21	From William Pope Duval. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-14). *TPUS*, 24:540–41. Recommends Romeo Lewis for marshal in Florida Territory.
Jul 21	*From Alfred Balch.* *412*
Jul 21	From W. S. Guinness. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M688-77). Asks to be appointed cadet at West Point.
Jul 21	From Henry Horn. ALS, DNA-RG 127 (18-0242). Recommends Jacob Zeilin Jr. for Marine lieutenant.
Jul 21	From Joseph Peabody et al. DS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-129). Request a naval show of force to protect American traders at Sumatra and obtain restitution for the plunder of the *Friendship*.
Jul 22	*From Anthony Butler.* *414*
Jul 22	From Thomas Hart Benton. ALS, Regency Superior Auctions, May 2013, lot 949 (mAJs). Introduces Navy midshipman William C. Farrar.
Jul 23	*To Martin Van Buren.* *415*
Jul 23	*To James Alexander Hamilton.* *416*
Jul 23	From Andrew Jackson Donelson. ALS (at Jul 23, 1821), DLC (30). Encloses E. L. Boteler's Jul 7 offer (DLC-39) to purchase AJ's colt Young Citizen for $600.
[cJul 23]	Pedigree of Young Citizen (horse). AD by Andrew J. Donelson, DLC (58; 17-0078).
Jul 23	From Henry F. McCracken. ALS, DNA-RG 92 (18-0251). Complains of Delaware breakwater superintendent Adam Traquair's partisan abuse of workers.
Jul 23	From Dudley Leavitt Pickman. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-129). Encloses the Jul 21 memorial from Joseph Peabody et al.
Jul 24	From John Randolph Clay. ALS, THer (18-0260). Reports that he has maintained friendly relations with Russia, despite lack of progress in negotiations. Referred by AJ to James Buchanan.
Jul 24	*From James Booker Gardiner.* *417*
Jul 24	Henry Baldwin to Edward Livingston. ALS, DLC (39). Asks him to urge the appointment of Morgan Neville for governor of Michigan Territory.
Jul 25	*To Edward Livingston.* *418*
[Jul 25]	To Roger Brooke Taney. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Approves Wharton Rector for Indian removal superintendent.

Jul 25 *To Martin Van Buren.* *418*
Jul 25 From William Edward Butler. ALS, DLC (39). Recommends Enoch Banks for receiver of a Mississippi land office.
Jul 25 From James A. Dunlap et al. DS, DLC (39). *TPUS*, 24:543. Recommend Romeo Lewis for marshal in Florida.
Jul 25 From Thomas Hickman. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Applies for an Army pension.
Jul 25 From Alexander Hunter. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0267). Resigns as justice of the peace in Alexandria, D.C.
Jul 25 From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits Charles Ellery's claim for reinstatement in the Navy.
Jul 26 To Edward Livingston. AN, DNA-RG 59 (18-0346). Orders Joseph Barlow's petition for release sent to James A. Hamilton for report.
[Jul 26] To Philip Walker. Draft (at Sep 1830), DLC (38). Offers belated thanks for the gift of two hickory brooms on Sept 20, 1830.
Jul 26 From Henry Baldwin. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-70). Introduces Reverend John Joyce, seeking introductions for his trip to Europe.
Jul 26 *From Samuel Delucenna Ingham.* *419*
Jul 26 *From Stevens Thomson Mason.* *436*
Jul 26 From David C. McKinstry et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-15). *Detroit Journal*, Jul 28. *TPUS*, 12:325–29. Protest Stevens T. Mason's appointment as secretary of Michigan Territory.
Jul 26 Appointment of Enoch Reynolds as acting second comptroller during James B. Thornton's absence. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0278).
Jul 26 Disapproval of payment of $550 to district attorney Thomas Swann for special services in the cases of Thomas Fillebrown and Joseph Nourse. ANS, DNA-RG 217 (M235-688).
Jul 27 *To Andrew Jackson Donelson.* *438*
Jul 27 From John Overton. ADS, THi (18-0292). Promissory note for $500. Receipted Jun 7, 1834, by AJ Jr. for $585.
Jul 27 From Frances H. Williamson. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M688-59). Begs to have her son James C. Williamson reappointed cadet at West Point.
Jul 27 Check to self for $400. DS, DLC (39).
Jul 28 *To David Burford.* *439*
Jul 28 To Roger Brooke Taney. AN, DNA-RG 107 (M222-30). Directs James Gadsden's commission as assistant engineer to be made out and sent to him.
Jul 28 From Peter A. Carnes and William Duval. LS, DNA-RG 94 (M567-58). Copy, DNA-RG 107 (M222-29). *TPUS*, 21:349–50. Accuse Col. Mathew Arbuckle of illegally seizing the liquor of all Indian traders except John Nicks.
Jul 28 From James A. Dunlap. ALS, DLC (39). *TPUS*, 24:542. Encloses the Jul 25 petition recommending Romeo Lewis for marshal in Florida.
Jul 28 *From James Alexander Hamilton.* *443*
Jul 28 *From Louis McLane.* *444*

[Jul 28]	From Morganton, N.C., citizens. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Request the assistance of a topographical engineer.	
Jul 28	Check to Ralph Eleazar Whitesides Earl for $97. DS, DLC (39).	
Jul 28	Approval of Army captain James H. Gale's court-martial and sentence of dismissal. ADS, DNA-RG 153 (18-0304).	
Jul 28	James H. Gale to Alexander Macomb. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M567-61). Asks permission to resign rather than be dismissed from the Army. Approved by AJ.	
Jul 28	Roger Brooke Taney to Asbury Dickins. Copy, DLC (39). *HRDoc* 123, 26th Cong., 2d sess., p. 831 (Serial 387). Tenders a legal opinion interpreting points of the Mar 2, 1831, insolvent debtors' relief law.	
Jul 29	To James Eakin. LS, Refford Cate; LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0309). Appoints him acting second auditor during William B. Lewis's absence.	
Jul 29	To Levi Woodbury. AN, A. Lovell Elliott (18-0327). Introduces Dr. Morton, highly recommended for assistant naval surgeon.	
Jul 29	From Richard Hales Bell. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M567-59). Claims a right to be appointed Army sutler in light of his military service and sacrifices.	
Jul 29	*From John Christmas McLemore and John Bell.*	*445*
Jul 29	From Myron Phelps et al. DS, DNA-RG 49 (18-0316). Ask to have the Quincy, Ill., land office removed to Lewistown.	
Jul 29	*From Martin Van Buren.*	*446*
Jul 29	Temporary commission for Daniel Smith McCauley as consul at Tripoli. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (18-0311).	
Jul 30	From George Huyler. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (M639-11). Asks to be appointed consul at Nassau.	
[Jul 30]	From Walter Bowne et al. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (M639-11). Recommend George Huyler for consul at Nassau.	
Jul 30	*From Shabanie.*	*448*
Jul 30	*From "A True Jackson Man."*	*449*
[Jul 31]	To Roger Brooke Taney. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Refers James Williams's application, sent through Richard G. Dunlap, to be appointed cadet at West Point.	
[cJul]	From Alphonso Wetmore and Zadoc Martin. DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-749). Request the lease of land for a mill site near Cantonment Leavenworth to serve emigrating Indians.	
Aug 1	*To Edward Livingston.*	*452*
Aug 1	*To Edward Livingston.*	*452*
Aug 1	To William IV, King of Great Britain. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0396). Presents U.S. minister Martin Van Buren.	
Aug 1	From James Duane Doty. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0977). Requests a pardon for William Prestage, a model prisoner already severely punished for his crime of murderous assault. Approved by AJ, Oct 13.	
[Aug 1]	From Samuel Wootton Beall et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0979). Support James D. Doty's appeal for a pardon for William Prestage.	
Aug 1	*From Stevens Thomson Mason.*	*453*

Aug 1 From David McClellan. ALS, DLC (39). Western Choctaw subagent asks to be named agent, succeeding his late brother William McClellan.

Aug 1 Temporary commission for Lewis Cass as Secretary of War. DS, MiU-C; LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0390). LC, DNA-RG 107 (M6-13).

Aug 1 Temporary commission for Aaron Vail as secretary of legation at London. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0393).

Aug 1 Temporary commission for Martin Van Buren as minister to Great Britain. DS, DLC; LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0394).

Aug 1 *Epigraph regarding the Hermitage.* *454*

[cAug 1] Epigraph: "The Hermitage is my choice." ADS, William C. Cook (mAJs).

Aug 2 From James Banks. ALS, DLC (39). Encloses William E. Butler's Jul 25 letter and recommends his brother Enoch Banks for land office receiver in Mississippi.

Aug 2 From Thomas Bragg. DS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0593). Pleads ignorance in overloading the British brig *Apollo* with emigrant passengers to the U.S., and requests that forfeiture and penalty proceedings against it and him be dropped.

Aug 2 *From John Thompson Gray.* *454*

Aug 2 From Louis McLane. ALS, NNPM (18-0397). Says he will leave New York the next day and reach Washington on Aug 6.

Aug 2 *From John Reynolds.* *455*

Aug 2 From James R. Smith et al. LS, DLC (39). Recommend John M. Goodenow for governor of Michigan Territory.

Aug 2 From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits midshipmen's warrants for signature.

Aug 3 To Peter Grayson Washington. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0418). Appoints him acting Treasurer during John Campbell's illness.

Aug 3 From Asbury Dickins. Printed, Washington *Globe*, Aug 10 (18-0411). Repels charges of Treasury sectional discrimination in contracting by showing that Charleston, S.C., officials had approved northerner Daniel Homans building the marine hospital there.

Aug 3 From William Savin Fulton. ALS, DNA-RG 49 (18-0413). *TPUS*, 21:358–59. Reports slow progress in court cases to overturn fraudulent Arkansas land titles, claims credit for success, and opposes congressional relief for purchasers.

Aug 3 *From William Savin Fulton.* *457*

Aug 3 *From John Thompson Gray.* *458*

Aug 3 *From Martin Van Buren.* *459*

Aug 3 From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits a sailing master's and midshipman's warrant for signature.

Aug 4 *To Benjamin Chew Howard.* *460*

Aug 4 *From Martin Van Buren.* *463*

Aug 4 Temporary commission for Thomas Eston Randolph as marshal in Florida. Printed, *TPUS*, 24:544 (18-0419).

Aug 5 From Roger Brooke Taney. LS, DNA-RG 233; ALS draft,

DNA-RG 94; Copy, DNA-RG 46 (18-0426). LC, DNA-RG 107 (M127-2). *SDoc* 12, 22d Cong., 2d sess., pp. 47–49 (Serial 230). Reports against Alexander Macomb's claim for brevet pay as Army chief engineer from 1821 to 1828. Opinion approved by AJ Aug 6.

Aug 5 Remission of fine and release from imprisonment for rioter Henry Anderson. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0421; T967-1).

Aug 5 Engineer Department statement detailing the academic status of twelve West Point cadets. D, DLC (39). Endorsed by AJ.

Aug 6 *To Andrew Jackson Donelson.* *464*

Aug 6 *To Edward Livingston.* *467*

Aug 6 To Asbury Dickins. Copy, DNA-RG 206; Copy, DNA-RG 217 (18-0448). Copy, DNA-RG 56 (M733-1). Orders him to report insolvent debtors among the Treasury clerks for dismissal.

Aug 6 To Roger Brooke Taney. Copy, DNA-RG 94 (M567-62). Copy, DNA-RG 75 (M234-434). Copy, DNA-RG 77; Copy, DNA-RG 92; Copy, DNA-RG 99; Copy, DNA-RG 112; Copy, DLC (18-0467). Richardson, 2:544. Orders him to report insolvent debtors among the War Department clerks for dismissal.

Aug 6 To Levi Woodbury. LS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-129). Orders him to report insolvent debtors among the Navy Department clerks for dismissal.

Aug 6 From D. F. Baker. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M688-78). Asks to be appointed cadet at West Point.

Aug 6 *From Worden Pope.* *467*

Aug 6 From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Reports against master commandant Thomas M. Newell's claim for medical expenses.

Aug 6 Quitclaim deed to Lea Haralson for 169 acres in Wilson County, Tenn. Copy, TLWil (18-0465).

Aug 6 Temporary commission for George Bryan Porter as governor of Michigan Territory. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0466). *TPUS*, 12:321–22.

Aug 7 *To Edward Livingston.* *471*

Aug 8 To Edward Livingston. AN, NjP (mAJs). Transmits recommendations for John McDuell from Reuben Post and others.

Aug 8 *To Martin Van Buren.* *472*

Aug 8 *From Robert Beale.* *474*

Aug 8 From James Alexander Hamilton. DS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0348). Reports against releasing Joseph Barlow, proved at trial to have fraudulently claimed customs drawback by misrepresenting his unrefined sugar exports as refined. AJ concurs.

Aug 8 From Samuel Utter et al. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-71). Recommend suspending William N. Jeffers's appointment as chargé d'affaires to Central America until he clears himself of an Ohio forgery charge.

Aug 8 Temporary commission for Louis McLane as secretary of the Treasury. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0479).

Aug 9 *From John Donelson.* *475*

[Aug 9] *From Edward Livingston.* *477*

Aug 9	*From John Pemberton.*	*477*
Aug 9	Check to Michael Anthony Giusta for $510. DS, DLC (39).	
Aug 9	Check to Samuel Gwin for $100. DS, DLC (39).	
Aug 10	To John Boyle. Photostat of DS, DLC (73). LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0491). Appoints him acting secretary of the Navy during Levi Woodbury's absence.	
Aug 10	*To Martin Van Buren.*	*479*
Aug 10	From Lewis Cass. ADS, DNA-RG 94 (M567-62). Proposes a court of inquiry for Captain John Le Conte, to determine if officers refusing duty on grounds of disability should lose their commissions. Approved by AJ.	
Aug 10	From Mahlon Dickerson. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-71). *Liberty Hall and Cincinnati Gazette*, Nov 17. Defends William N. Jeffers's character and urges him to swiftly resolve the Ohio charge of forgery against him. Referred by AJ to forward a copy to Jeffers.	
Aug 10	*From Richard Gilliam Dunlap.*	*480*
Aug 10	From Michael Fishell. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Complains that his Army pension is being withheld.	
Aug 10	From William David Lewis and P. A. Rouget. DS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0758). Beg a remission of customs penalties for inadvertently exceeding legal passenger limits on the French brig *Mercure*, carrying emigrants to Philadelphia. Refused by AJ Aug 17, as the law was "wantonly violated."	
Aug 10	From Nicholas I, Emperor of Russia. LS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0496). Announces the birth of his son Nicholas.	
Aug 10	Appointment of Daniel Brent as acting secretary of state during Edward Livingston's absence. LC, DNA-RG 59; Copy, DNA-RG 59 (18-0492). LC, DNA-RG 59 (M78-3). Copy, DNA-RG 107 (M221-111).	
Aug 10	Temporary commission for Samuel John Carr as consul in Morocco. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (18-0494).	
[cAug 10]	AJ notation on an Aug 10 pamphlet by "A North American" (Thomas Waters Griffith) criticizing Lafayette's course in French politics. Abstract, TNJ (18-0495).	
Aug 11	From James Nelson Barker. LS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0766). Explains the application of the law against carrying excess passengers and the circumstances of the French brig *Mercure*.	
Aug 11	*From Benjamin Franklin Currey.*	*485*
Aug 11	From James Duane Doty. AL fragment, CSmH (18-0508). Asks a chance to refute charges against his conduct as Michigan Territory judge.	
Aug 11	From Richard Mentor Johnson. Copy, DNA-RG 46 (18-0510). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, p. 558 (Serial 245). Asks AJ's approval for William Clark to employ Andrew S. Hughes and Jonathan L. Bean to survey the Sioux and Sac and Fox boundaries under the July 1830 Treaty of Prairie du Chien.	
Aug 12	*To Nicholas Philip Trist.*	*492*
Aug 12	To Martin Van Buren. Abstract, Sotheby Parke Bernet catalog,	

	1980 (18-0517). Abstract, Christie's (Highlander sale 8322), Dec 15, 1995 (mAJs). Forwards an enclosure.
Aug 12	From Walter Bowne et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-18). Recommend Thomas Phoenix for commissioner to adjust American spoliation claims against France.
Aug 12	From John Boyle. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Reports that no Navy Department clerks have taken benefit of the insolvent debtor law.
[cAug 12]	AJ endorsement on a Navy Department report of clerks who have taken benefit of the insolvent debtor law. Extract, Gary Hendershott Sale 77, 1992 (mAJs).
Aug 12	From Jonathan Phillips. ALS, DLC (39). Asks to be appointed clerk in the Patent Office.
Aug 12	From Jonathan Starkey. LS, DNA-RG 15 (M804-2273). Complains of receiving no reply to his claim for a Revolutionary pension.
Aug 12	From Martin Van Buren. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (M639-5). Recommends Jonathan I. Coddington for office.
Aug 12	Stevens Thomson Mason to Edward Livingston. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-15). *TPUS*, 12:330–31. Reports that his appointment as Michigan Territory secretary is popular except among violent foes of the administration. Endorsed by AJ.
Aug 13	*To John Pemberton.* *493*
Aug 13	From James Nelson Barker. LS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0769). Transmits a letter from the U.S. consul at Havre, stating that the *Mercure* and other emigrant vessels were forewarned of laws against carrying excess passengers and are deliberately violating them.
Aug 13	*From James McConnell Montgomery.* *493*
Aug 14	*From Martin Van Buren.* *495*
Aug 15	From Charles Ballard. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M688-75). Asks to be appointed cadet at West Point.
Aug 15	From Daniel Brent. LC, DNA-RG 59 (M40-22). Submits for approval a letter directing William N. Jeffers to refute the Ohio forgery charge before sailing for Central America (DNA-RG 59, M77-9). Approved by AJ.
Aug 15	From George Mifflin Dallas. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0772). States that the emigrant brig *Mercure*'s violation of passenger limits was doubtless intentional, but that a pardon, if still deemed "just and expedient," would be received with "much pleasure."
Aug 15	*From James Alexander Hamilton.* *498*
Aug 15	*From John Reynolds.* *499*
Aug 15	*From Martin Van Buren.* *502*
Aug 15	*From Martin Van Buren.* *503*
Aug 15	Temporary commission for Lucius Lyon as commissioner to run the northern boundary line of Illinois. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0541).
Aug 15	R. Morris to William Berkeley Lewis. ALS, DLC (39). Recommends John Conrad for marshal in Pennsylvania. Endorsed by AJ.

Aug 16	*From Edward Livingston.*	*504*
Aug 16	*From John Pemberton.*	*505*
Aug 16	From F. Masi & Co. DS, DLC (40). Receipted bill for canes and accessories. Runs to Jun 9, 1832.	
Aug 16	From Tucker & Thompson. DS, DLC (40). Bassett, 4:388. Receipted tailors' bill for clothing. Runs to Dec 22.	
Aug 17	*To Anthony Butler.*	*505*
Aug 17	To John Pemberton. ALS, PHi (18–0558). Regrets that his Aug 13 letter has miscarried, and repeats its substance.	
Aug 17	From Francis Smith Belton. ALS, DNA-RG 107 (M221-111). Appeals the War Department's rejection of his claim for retroactive double rations as commander of the Charleston arsenal before Jan 1831.	
Aug 17	*From Silas Enoch Burrows.*	*506*
Aug 17	From David Offley. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-17). Asks to have his rank at Smyrna raised from commercial agent to consul.	
Aug 18	*To Hardy Murfree Cryer.*	*507*
Aug 18	From John Boyle. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits Lewis Warrington's report on the Jul 30 charges by "A True Jackson Man" of corruption at the Gosport navy yard.	
Aug 18	*From John Pitchlynn.*	*508*
Aug 18	Benjamin William Brice to Lewis Cass. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M567-59). Resigns as Army lieutenant effective Dec 1. Accepted by AJ Oct 13.	
Aug 19	*From John Christmas McLemore.*	*511*
Aug 19	From John Pemberton. ALS draft, PHi (18-0573). Introduces Abiah Sharpe and recommends him for office.	
Aug 19	From Charles Henry Smith. ALS, DNA-RG 77 (18-0576). Asks to have his son, discharged West Point cadet Larkin Smith, reappointed.	
Aug 19	From Roger Brooke Taney. LC, DNA-RG 60 (T412-3). *HRDoc* 123, 26th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 835–36 (Serial 387). Submits a legal opinion against Duke Goodman's claim for a refund of his payments as surety on Mr. Weyman's customs bonds.	
Aug 19	Appointment of Michael Nourse as acting register of the Treasury during Thomas L. Smith's absence. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0572).	
Aug 19	Withdrawal of suit against Achilles Burnett in Rutherford Co., Tenn. Abstract, TMRu (18-0575).	
Aug 20	From Lewis Cass. AN, DNA-RG 94 (M567-65). Encloses and concurs in John J. Abert's recommendation of William Turnbull for assistant topographical engineer. Appointed by AJ.	
Aug 20	From Aaron C. Engles et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-5). Warn against appointing political turncoat John Conrad marshal in Pennsylvania.	
Aug 20	From James Alexander Hamilton. DS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0603). Credits Thomas Bragg's plea of innocent intent and harmless result in carrying excess passengers on the brig *Apollo*, discounts the risk of a bad precedent in showing leniency, and recommends dropping the case. Approved by AJ Aug 26.	

Aug 22	To [Daniel Brent]. ADS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0578). Appoints Abiah Sharpe marshal in Pennsylvania.	
Aug 22	*From Edward Livingston.*	*513*
Aug 22	*From Wawealippe et al.*	*514*
Aug 23	To Abd er-Rahman, Sultan of Morocco. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0580). Presents U.S. consul Samuel J. Carr.	
Aug 23	To Yusuf ibn Ali Karamanli, Pasha of Tripoli. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0581). Presents U.S. consul Daniel S. McCauley.	
Aug 23	*To Edward Livingston.*	*515*
Aug 23	*From Samuel Fisher Bradford.*	*516*
[Aug 23]	From Matthew L. Bevan et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-21). Recommend Abiah Sharpe for marshal in Pennsylvania.	
Aug 23	From William Craig. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-21). Encloses and seconds the recommendation from Matthew L. Bevan et al. for Abiah Sharpe.	
Aug 23	From Ambrose Hundley Sevier. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Recommends John Dunlap for Indian agent.	
Aug 24	*To Anthony Butler.*	*517*
Aug 25	*To Samuel Fisher Bradford.*	*519*
Aug 25	From John Boyle. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits William D. Hurst's midshipman's warrant for signature.	
Aug 25	*From Levi Woodbury.*	*520*
Aug 26	From Lewis Cass. AN, DNA-RG 107 (M221-111). Submits a Paymaster General's report on Francis S. Belton's claim for retroactive double rations as commander of the Charleston arsenal.	
Aug 26	Order of a nolle prosequi in the customs suit against the British brig *Apollo* and master Thomas Bragg. ANS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0592).	
[cAug 27]	*Memorandum on Thomas Aspinwall.*	*521*
Aug 27	*To Daniel Brent.*	*521*
Aug 27	To Lewis Cass. AN, MiU-C (18-0607). Asks to see him, and reports good news from Rives.	
Aug 27	From John Boyle. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Denies Joseph M. White's complaint of franking a *Globe* attack on him through the mail.	
Aug 27	From William Savin Fulton. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Recommends John Dunlap for Indian agent.	
Aug 27	Order disallowing Francis Smith Belton's claim for retroactive double rations as commander of the Charleston arsenal, as unauthorized by law. LC, DLC (60).	
Aug 27	Andrew Jackson Jr. to John Overton. ALS, THer (18-0608). Forwards a letter to Overton sent from Memphis. Envelope franked by AJ.	
Aug 28	From Nicholas I, Emperor of Russia. LS and translations, DNA-RG 59 (18-0610). Acknowledges John Randolph's withdrawal as minister and hopes for continued good relations.	
Aug 29	*To Willie Blount.*	*522*
Aug 29	*To Lewis Cass.*	*524*
Aug 29	*To Richard Gilliam Dunlap.*	*524*

Aug 29	*From Jeremiah Cobb et al.*	*529*
Aug 29	From William Marshall. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-13). Recommends Amos Lane for chargé d'affaires at Buenos Aires and suggests that Indiana is due an appointment.	
Aug 29	From Arthur St. Clair. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-13). Recommends his father-in-law Amos Lane for chargé d'affaires at Buenos Aires and urges Indiana's claim to an appointment.	
[Aug 29]	From Ira Ladd et al. DS, DNA-RG 49 (18-0620). Settlers in Putnam Co., Ill., request a postponement of public land sales to give preemptioners time to prove their claims.	
Aug 29	From H. Warren. ALS, DNA-RG 49 (18-0623). Encloses the Putnam Co., Ill., memorial to postpone public land sales. Referred by AJ to the GLO.	
Aug 29	Check to self for $100. DS, DLC (40).	
Aug 30	*To Lewis Cass.*	*531*
Aug 30	From William Hendricks. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-13). Recommends Amos Lane for chargé d'affaires at Buenos Aires and urges Indiana's claim to an appointment.	
Aug 30	From Harvey Strong. ALS and ALS copy, DNA-RG 59 (M639-23). Asks to be restored to the Glasgow consulate, from which he was unjustly removed in 1824.	
Aug 31	To Daniel Brent. AN, DNA-RG 59 (M179-71). Asks to see Rives's May and Jun 1830 dispatches concerning the spoliation claims negotiations.	
Aug 31	*To John Reynolds.*	*531*
Aug 31	To Nicholas Philip Trist. AN, DLC (18-0633). Inquires whether funds for taking the census have been remitted to the U.S. marshal in Virginia.	
[Aug]	Refusal of remission of penalty for customs violator Joseph Barlow. ANS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0333).	
Aug	Narration by Michael Anthony Giusta of AJ's dispute with Nelson Davidson over carriage repairs. DS, NjP (18-0382).	
[Aug–Sep]	*Memorandum book.*	*532*
[Aug–Sep]	War Department synopses of reports by Edmund Pendleton Gaines on Jun 14 and Aug 10 and by William Clark on Aug 12 on Sac Indian disturbances in Illinois. D, DLC (39). Endorsed by AJ.	
[cSep 1]	*Memorandum on John Branch.*	*534*
Sep 1	To Virgil Maxcy. Extract, *The Collector*, 1976 (18-0650). Thanks him for a gift of fruit.	
Sep 1	From D. D. Baker. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-6). Recommends Eli S. Davis for governor of Florida Territory.	
Sep 1	*From William Carroll.*	*537*
Sep 1	*From James Alexander Hamilton.*	*538*
Sep 2	From John Boyle. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits midshipmen's warrants for signature.	
[Sep 2]	*From Lewis Cass.*	*539*
Sep 2	From Asa Green. LS, DNA-RG 59 (18-1128). Urges a pardon for Quartus M. Webb, a young postal clerk of good character	

	who pilfered money from the mail in a moment of weakness and received a ten-year sentence.	
Sep 3	*To James Alexander Hamilton.*	*542*
Sep 3	*To Edward Livingston.*	*542*
Sep 4	From Ephraim Bowen. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (T339-1). Denounces Matanzas consul Lewis Shoemaker as unfit and recommends A. Orlando Newton to replace him.	
Sep 5	*To Daniel Brent.*	*543*
Sep 5	*To Martin Van Buren.*	*543*
Sep 5	*To Charles Webb.*	*546*
Sep 5	From Alexander Icard Jr. and Charles Tierce. DS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0724). Beg a remission of penalties for unknowingly overloading the French brig *L'Amelie* with immigrant passengers to Philadelphia.	
Sep 5	From William Nicholson Jeffers. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M219-2). Declares his innocence of forgery, says the charge was politically motivated, and asks the right to clear his name or be allowed to resign.	
Sep 5	From Greenwood Leflore et al. Copy, DNA-RG 46 (18-0667). Choctaws request Francis W. Armstrong for their western agent.	
Sep 5	*From Caleb Starr.*	*550*
Sep 5	*From Simon Wilmer.*	*551*
Sep 5	Pardon for counterfeit note-passer John W. Scull, on account of his good conduct and long imprisonment. LC, DNA-RG 59 (T967-1).	
Sep 5	Check [to Michael Anthony Giusta] for $613.85. DS, DLC (40).	
Sep 5	Check to Andrew Jackson Hutchings for $58.75. DS, DLC (40).	
Sep 5	Receipt from Andrew Jackson Hutchings for $31.25 in clothing and $118.75 in cash. DS, THi (18-0665).	
Sep 5	John Wilson Campbell to Elijah Hayward. ALS, DLC (40). Complains of Barry's failure to fill the vacant Russellville postmastership and opines that the Eaton affair has cost AJ Ohio "irrecoverably and forever." Endorsed by AJ.	
Sep 6	*To John Coffee.*	*552*
Sep 6	To Frederick VI, King of Denmark. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0692). Commends and congratulates Peder Pedersen, late Danish minister to the U.S.	
Sep 6	*From John Henry Eaton.*	*554*
Sep 6	From Harvey Strong. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-71). Solicits reinstatement as consul at Glasgow, attributing his unpopularity and removal in 1824 to his strict performance of duty.	
Sep 6	*From Martin Van Buren.*	*555*
Sep 6	Bill from John and William Puckett for brick and stone work at the Hermitage. DS, DLC (40). Receipted Feb 6, 1832.	
Sep [7]	*To John Coffee.*	*561*
Sep 7	From Henry Lee. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Transmits a letter on making bullets.	
Sep 7	From P. A. Rouget. DS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0775). Master of the French brig *Mercure* pleads his innocence of intent to violate the	

laws against overloading passengers, and begs a remission of penalties against the vessel and himself. Approved by AJ Sep 14.

Sep 7 From William David Lewis. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0773). Encloses P. A. Rouget's appeal for a remission of penalties against himself and the brig *Mercure*.

Sep 7 From George Loyall. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-129). Introduces naval surgeon James Cornick and endorses his request for a transfer.

Sep 7 From Mordecai Manuel Noah. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-18). Recommends Thomas Phoenix for claims commissioner under the treaty with France.

Sep 7 From Maximilian Ludwig Proli (Bernhard Müller). LS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-71). Karl J. R. Arndt, ed., *Economy on the Ohio, 1826–1834* (Worcester, Mass., 1984), pp. 587–91. Announces his arrival in the U.S. with German colonists and asks AJ's protection.

Sep 7 Andrew Jackson Donelson to Roger Brooke Taney. ALS, DNA-RG 60 (18-0698). Conveys AJ's request for a legal opinion on John Pitchlynn's Aug 18 letter claiming additional land under the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek.

Sep 8 From Walter Bowne and Richard Riker. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-18). Recommend Thomas Phoenix for claims commissioner under the treaty with France.

Sep 8 *From John Boyle.* *562*

Sep 8 From Walter Colton. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-27). *TPUS*, 24:549–50. Charges that Pensacola U.S. attorney Benjamin D. Wright, magistrate Joseph E. Caro, and postmaster John de la Rua thwarted a murder prosecution and are unfit and incompetent.

Sep 8 From Samuel Veazie and Daniel Gibbs. DS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0803). Beg a remission of penalties for inadvertently overloading their brig *Frances Augusta* with emigrant passengers from Havre to Philadelphia. Approved by AJ Sep 17.

Sep 8 From George Mifflin Dallas. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0810). Challenges Samuel Veazie and Daniel Gibbs's claim of ignorance in overloading the *Frances Augusta* with emigrant passengers at Havre, but does not oppose clemency.

Sep 8 From Sullivan Hardy. ALS, DNA-RG 15 (M804-958). Asks that Revolutionary veteran John Farrow's pension, stopped because he owned property, be restored.

Sep 8 From Thomas Hickman. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Applies for a Revolutionary pension.

Sep 8 From Ephraim Shaler. ALS, DNA-RG 107 (18-0705). Requests an office, citing his 15 years' service and sufferings as an Army officer.

Sep 8 *From John Wilson.* *563*

Sep 8 *Memorandum book.* *565*

Sep 8 Louis McLane to John Campbell. DS, DNA-RG 217 (18-0702). Warrant to pay AJ $5000 for White House furnishings.

Sep 9 From James Nelson Barker. LS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0812).

	Challenges Samuel Veazie and Daniel Gibbs's claim of only incidentally and inadvertently exceeding the legal passenger limit on their brig *Frances Augusta*.
Sep 9	From John Curtis. DS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0821). Begs a remission of penalties for unwittingly exceeding legal passenger limits on his barque *Herald* carrying emigrants from Havre to Philadelphia.
Sep 9	From George Mifflin Dallas. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0741). Advises that the libeled French brig *L'Amelie*'s passenger load had grossly exceeded the legal limit for her tonnage.
Sep 9	From Jean Batiste Joly. DS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0848). Begs a remission of penalties for unwittingly exceeding legal passenger limits on the French barque *Malabar* carrying emigrants from Havre to Philadelphia.
Sep 9	From Roger Brooke Taney. LC, DNA-RG 60 (T412-3). Copy, DNA-RG 46 (18-0710). Copy, DNA-RG 75 (M234-169). *HRDoc* 123, 26th Cong., 2d sess., p. 838 (Serial 387). Reports against John Pitchlynn's claim to additional land under the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek.
Sep 9	Appointment of Duncan Stewart as lighthouse keeper at Bombay Hook, Del. DS, DeHi (18-0709).
Sep 9	Andrew Jackson Jr. to William Donelson. ALS, Benjamin H. Caldwell Jr. (37-0425). Discusses AJ's possible purchase of Samuel and Alexander Donelson's land, the cotton market, the Cabinet breakup, and the upcoming presidential campaign.
Sep 10	To Elijah Hayward. Printed, *Documents in Relation to Charges Preferred by Stephen J. Field and Others, before the House of Assembly of the State of California, Against Wm. R. Turner*, 2d ed. (San Francisco, 1856), p. 39 (mAJs). Requests a GLO clerkship for William R. Turner. (Possibly inauthentic.)
Sep 10	From James Nelson Barker. LS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0744). Accuses the petitioners for remission of penalties against the brig *L'Amelie* of falsifying facts and feigning ignorance of the legal limits on passenger numbers.
Sep 10	*From James Buchanan.* *566*
Sep 10	From Christopher Grant Champlin et al. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-11). Recommend William Hunter for claims commissioner under the treaty with France.
Sep 10	From John D'Wolf et al. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-11). Recommend William Hunter for claims commissioner under the treaty with France.
Sep 10	From James Gettys McGready Ramsey et al. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Request that a topographical engineer be detailed to survey a railroad route.
Sep 10	From John Welsh. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0832). Consignee of the emigrant ships *Eugenie*, *Malabar*, and *Herald* protests the new Philadelphia customs policies under which they are interpreted as bringing in more passengers than allowed by law.
Sep 10	Check to Andrew Jackson Jr. for $125. DS, DLC (40).
Sep 11	*From John Coffee.* *568*

Sep 12 To John Boyle. AN, DNA-RG 45 (M125-163). Informs him that the schooner *Porpoise*, slated to carry William N. Jeffers to Central America, will be available for other duty if Jeffers's countermanding orders reach Pensacola in time to prevent his sailing.

Sep 12 To Roger Brooke Taney. ADS, DNA-RG 107 (M221-111). LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0717). Appoints him acting secretary of war during Lewis Cass's absence.

Sep 12 From Edouard Deutsche. DS and Copy, DNA-RG 59 (18-1030). Asks remission of forfeiture and penalties for unknowingly carrying too many passengers from Havre to New York on the French emigrant barque *L'Estelle*.

Sep 12 From Anderson & Raymond. LS, DNA-RG 59 (18-1049). Transmit Edouard Deutsche's petition and urge a cessation of proceedings against him and the *L'Estelle*.

Sep 12 From James Nelson Barker. LS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0788). Rebuts P. A. Rouget's plea of innocent intent and only incidental violation of the law in his Sep 7 appeal for remission of penalties against himself and the brig *Mercure*.

Sep 12 From George Mifflin Dallas. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0785). Assesses the extent and gravity of the French brig *Mercure*'s violation of the law against carrying excess passengers, and the likelihood that it was intentional.

Sep 12 From Jean Batiste Gérard. DS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0835). Begs a remission of penalties for unknowingly exceeding legal passenger limits on his ship *Eugenie* carrying emigrants from Havre to Philadelphia.

Sep 12 From William Nicholson Jeffers. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M219-2). Details his measures to collect facts to clear himself of forgery charges in Ohio.

Sep 12 From Louis McLane. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0749). Submits the petition and papers concerning the French brig *L'Amelie*, libeled for exceeding legal passenger limits. Endorsed by AJ Sep 13 to remit penalties against ship and master Charles Tierce.

Sep 13 To Louis McLane. DS, DNA-RG 107 (M221-111). LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0719). Appoints him acting secretary of war during the absence of Lewis Cass and Roger Taney.

Sep 13 *To John Overton.* *572*

Sep 13 To the Provisional Regency of Brazil. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0718). Acknowledges the abdication of Emperor Pedro I in favor of his son Pedro II.

Sep 13 *To George Read et al.* *572*

Sep [c13] From Preserved Fish et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-4). Recommend David A. Clarkson for secretary to the claims commission under the French treaty.

Sep 13 Remission of penalties against the French brig *L'Amelie* and master Charles Tierce for overloading with passengers to Philadelphia. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0722; T967-1).

Sep 14 *To James Buchanan.* *573*

Sep 14 To Maximilian Ludwig Proli. LS facsimile, Karl J. R. Arndt,

George Rapp's Harmony Society, rev. ed. (Rutherford, N.J., 1972), p. 518 (18-0756). Karl J. R. Arndt, ed., *Economy on the Ohio, 1826–1834* (Worcester, Mass., 1984), p. 602. Welcomes him to the U.S., where "benign and equal" laws will protect his person and property.

Sep 14 *From Alfred Balch.* *573*

Sep 14 From Gabriel Walker. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-25). Asks to be appointed consul at Glasgow.

Sep 14 *From James Renwick Willson.* *575*

Sep 14 Remission of penalties against the French emigrant brig *Mercure* and master P. A. Rouget for exceeding passenger limits for her tonnage. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0757; T967-1).

Sep 15 *To Nicholas Philip Trist.* *576*

Sep 15 From Jacob Bosworth. ALS, DNA-RG 15 (18-0793). Complains of illegal fees exacted for drawing his Army pension.

Sep 15 From William Channing Gibbs et al. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-11). Recommend William Hunter for claims commissioner under the French treaty.

Sep 15 From Nathaniel Searle et al. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-11). Recommend William Hunter for claims commissioner under the French treaty.

[cSep 15] From Josiah Tattnall et al. DS, DNA-RG 46 (mAJs). Navy officers plead for reinstatement of dismissed lieutenant Charles Ellery.

Sep 16 *To Andrew Jackson Jr.* *576*

Sep 16 *To John Overton.* *578*

Sep 16 To Charles Richard Vaughan. LS, UkOxU-AS (18-0799). Introduces Patrick Macaulay, in London to seek capital for North Carolina gold mining.

Sep 16 *From Samuel Black et al.* *579*

Sep 16 From Aaron B. Howell. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-11). Complains that AJ's New Jersey patronage favors Federalists and political changelings over "original friends," touts his family claims, and asks to be appointed chargé d'affaires at Buenos Aires.

Sep 17 *To John Boyle.* *580*

Sep 17 To Maunsel White. LS, NjP (mAJs). Introduces Robert S. Garnett, visiting New Orleans on business.

Sep 17 Check to self for $75. DS, DLC (40).

Sep 17 Remission of penalties against the emigrant brig *Frances Augusta*, owner Samuel Veazie, and master Daniel Gibbs for carrying more passengers to Philadelphia than allowed by law. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0802; T967-1).

Sep 17 Andrew Jackson Donelson to William Donelson. ALS, DLC-Donelson Papers (mAJs). Remarks on family news, Eaton's departure, the end of his influence and his effort to make the social question a political test, and brightening prospects for harmony and the repair of political damage. Franked by AJ.

Sep 18 *To Martin Van Buren.* *580*

Sep 18 *From James Alexander Hamilton.* *581*

Sep 18 From James Gray Read. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-13). Recommends Amos Lane for chargé d'affaires at Buenos Aires.

Sep 19 From James Cornick. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M148-70). Naval surgeon requests a transfer from the West Indian to Mediterranean squadron.

[Sep 19] *From John Henry Eaton.* *583*

Sep 19 Remission of penalties against John Curtis and his barque *Herald* for carrying more passengers than allowed for her tonnage. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0819; T967-1).

Sep 19 Remission of penalties against the French emigrant ship *Eugenie* and master and owner Jean Batiste Gérard and Ozanne ainé for bringing more passengers into Philadelphia than allowed by law for her tonnage. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0830; T967-1).

Sep 19 Remission of penalties against the French emigrant barque *Malabar* and master Jean Batiste Joly and owner Ozanne ainé for bringing into Philadelphia more passengers than allowed by law for her tonnage. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0846; T967-1).

Sep 19 Check to Andrew Jackson Donelson for $300. DS, DLC (40).

Sep [c20] *From Willie Blount.* *583*

Sep 20 From George Gillespie. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Asks to be appointed to appraise improvements of emigrating Cherokees.

Sep 20 From John Pemberton. ALS draft, PHi (18-0858). Introduces Philadelphia shipbuilder Samuel Grice.

Sep 21 *From Martin Van Buren.* *586*

Sep 22 From Robert Bogardus. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-18). Recommends Thomas Phoenix for claims commissioner under the French treaty.

Sep 22 From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits midshipmen's warrants for signature.

Sep 22 Approval of Navy midshipman William C. Homes's court-martial and sentence of six months' suspension for drunkenness and conduct unbecoming an officer. DS, DNA-RG 125 (M273-26).

Sep 22 Edward Livingston to William Nicholson Jeffers. LC, DNA-RG 59 (M77-9). LC, DNA-RG 59 (M40-22). Orders him to Washington to answer charges of forgery.

Sep 23 From John W. Byrn. ALS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-185). Copy, DNA-RG 46 (18-0873). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, p. 600 (Serial 245). Asks to be appointed agent to sell the cattle of emigrating Choctaws.

Sep 23 From John Coffee. ALS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-185). Copy, DNA-RG 46 (18-0874). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, p. 600 (Serial 245). Suspects fraud in recent auctions of emigrating Choctaws' cattle, and recommends John W. Byrn for sales agent.

[Sep 23] From James Gadsden. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-4). Recommends John K. Campbell for district attorney in Florida.

Sep 23 From Joaquín Mosquera. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M51-2). Announces his departure for France and explains his reasons for not returning to Colombia.

Sep 23 Approval of Navy master commandant James Ramage's

court-martial and sentence of cashiering for disobeying orders, contempt to superiors, and scandalous conduct. DS, DNA-RG 125 (M273-26).

Sep 23 Approval of Marine lieutenant Charles F. Spering's court-martial and sentence of cashiering for drunkenness. DS, DNA-RG 125 (M273-26).

Sep 24 From Richard Keith Call. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-7). Recommends James A. Dunlap for district attorney in Florida.

Sep 24 From Joseph T. Daughty. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Discusses the protection of the Harpers Ferry armory.

Sep 24 *From William Lee Davidson Ewing.* *587*

Sep 24 From Jonathan Jennings. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-13). Recommends Amos Lane for chargé d'affaires at Buenos Aires.

Sep 24 From William Wilkins. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-13). Recommends John K. Kane for claims commissioner under the French treaty.

Sep 24 From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits Marine lieutenant Nathaniel S. Waldron's commission for signature.

Sep 25 From Abraham Bellamy. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-7). Recommends James A. Dunlap for district attorney in Florida.

Sep 25 From James Diament Westcott Jr. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-7). Recommends James A. Dunlap for district attorney in Florida.

[cSep 25] From James Diament Westcott Jr. et al. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-7). Recommend James A. Dunlap for district attorney in Florida.

Sep 25 Richard C. Allen to Andrew Jackson Donelson. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-7). Recommends James A. Dunlap for district attorney in Florida.

Sep 26 From Jonas Earll Jr. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-23). Recommends John Sudam for claims commissioner under the French treaty.

Sep 26 From James Gadsden. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-7). Endorses James A. Dunlap's fitness for district attorney in Florida.

Sep 26 From Charles Havenor. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Asks to have his Revolutionary pension restored.

Sep 26 Andrew Jackson Jr. to Andrew Jackson Donelson. ALS, Ruth Crownover (37-0507). Gives news of his New York City visit with Emily Donelson, Mary McLemore, and Mary Ann Eastin, and his plans to return with a stop in Philadelphia.

Sep 27 *From William Carroll.* *590*

Sep 27 From Josiah Hedden. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-18). Recommends Thomas Phoenix for claims commissioner under the French treaty.

Sep 27 From Jeremiah Johnson. LS, DNA-RG 107 (M222-29). Supervisors of Kings County, N.Y., protest the unloading and storage at Fort Lafayette of goods from cholera-infested regions.

Sep 27 From William Jones Leiper. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-13). Recommends John K. Kane for claims commissioner under the French treaty.

Sep 27	From William M. Price. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-18). Recommends Thomas Phoenix for claims commissioner under the French treaty.	
[cSep 28]	From James Auld. DS, DNA-RG 59 (20-1200). Prays a remission of his fine for gambling, pleading reformation, poverty, ill health, and needy family.	
Sep 28	From William Cabell Rives. AL abstract, DLC (18-0883). Recommends Charles C. Harper.	
Sep 28	From Asher Robbins. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-11). Recommends William Hunter for claims commissioner under the French treaty.	
Sep 28	*From Martin Van Buren.*	*591*
Sep 28	*From Martin Van Buren.*	*592*
Sep 28	From Frederick Weedon. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-21). Recommends Charles E. Sherman for district attorney in Florida.	
Sep 29	To James Bonaparte Thornton. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0901). Grants him leave of absence and appoints Enoch Reynolds acting second comptroller.	
Sep 29	From Alexander Gibson. ALS, TNJ (18-0899). Complains of AJ's failure to answer his appeal for reinstatement in the Navy.	
Sep 29	From Josiah Nichol & Son. LS, DLC (40). Bassett, 4:352–53. Provides statements of AJ's accounts with Nichol & Son since Jan 7 and with Nichol & Hill since Jul 24, 1830, including cotton receipts, expenses, and current balance due AJ.	
Sep 30	*From Willie Blount.*	*594*
Sep 30	*From Felix Grundy.*	*596*
Sep 30	From Elijah Hayward. LC, DNA-RG 49 (M25-26). Recommends approving Greenwood Leflore's sale of his reservation under the 1825 Choctaw treaty.	
Sep 30	From Margarette Le Clerc. DS, DNA-RG 75 (18-0902). Asks AJ not to approve her dissolute husband Pierre Le Clerc's sale of his 1828 Potawatomi treaty reservation land for money to buy liquor.	
Sep 30	James Ronaldson to William Berkeley Lewis. ALS, DLC (40). Touts the Louisville and Portland Canal, proposes its purchase by the U.S., defends the tariff, censures the Calhounites, praises Eaton's *Candid Appeal*, and wishes well to Liberia. Endorsed by AJ.	
[cSep]	From Benjamin Bailey, Gilbert Coutant, and John Targee. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-18). Recommend Thomas Phoenix for claims commissioner under the French treaty.	
Sep	From Jeremiah Nelson et al. DS, DNA-RG 76 (18-0645). Request a special mission to Naples to pursue spoliation claims for ship seizures in the Napoleonic Wars.	
[cSep]	From Martin Van Buren. AN, DLC (18-0647). Detached postscript with greetings for John Overton and news of the cholera.	
Oct 1	To George House et al. Printed, Washington *Globe*, Oct 5 (18-0910). Agrees to receive the mail contractors on Oct 3.	

[Oct 1] From Edward J. Roberts et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (19-0305). Recommend pardoning William Rice, convicted of counterfeiting on weak evidence and worthy of mercy.

Oct 3 *To John Coffee.* *598*

Oct 3 From George House. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-10). Recommends Robert Harper for claims commissioner under the French treaty. Elijah Hayward and John Magee concur.

Oct 3 From Asher Miner et al. Printed, Washington *Globe*, Oct 5 (mAJs; 18-0915). Mail contractors pay their respects at the White House. AJ thanks them.

Oct 3 From Saukanosh and Cheegepinquay. DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-775). Copy, DNA-RG 75 (18-0916). Chippewa, Ottawa, and Potawatomi Indians ask permission to convey land for a Catholic school.

Oct 3 From John Vanderpoel. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-23). Recommends John Sudam for claims commissioner under the French treaty.

Oct 3 Approval of Marine lieutenant Thomas Burke's court-martial and sentence of cashiering for drunkenness. DS, DNA-RG 125 (M273-27).

Oct 3 Temporary commission for Samuel Gwin as register of the Mount Salus, Miss., land office. Copy, DNA-RG 46 (18-0914).

Oct 4 *To James Renwick Willson.* *599*

Oct 4 *From William Pope Duval.* *599*

Oct 4 From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits naval warrants for signature.

Oct 4 Andrew Jackson Donelson to John Coffee. ALS, DLC (18-0920). Gives news of AJ's recovery from illness, family travels, his afterthoughts on the Cabinet affair, and AJ's reelection prospects. Franked by AJ.

Oct 5 *To [Lewis Cass].* *605*

Oct 5 *To Louis McLane.* *606*

Oct 5 *From Robert Minns Burton.* *607*

Oct 5 From William Cabell Rives. Abstract, DLC (18-0928). Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Recommends Alpheus G. Steere for cadet at West Point.

Oct 6 To Samuel Lewis. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0930). Appoints him acting second auditor during William B. Lewis's absence.

Oct 6 *From Anthony Butler.* *609*

Oct 6 *From John Reynolds.* *610*

Oct 6 Check to Michael Anthony Giusta for $589.06. DS, DLC (40).

Oct 6 Check to self for $100. DS, DLC (40).

Oct 7 To William Cabell Rives. LS, DLC (18-0938). Introduces Daniel S. McCauley.

Oct 7 From Gaud Alix. DS, DNA-RG 59 (18-0943). Seeks remission of penalties for unwittingly loading the French emigrant brig *Euphrosina* from Havre to Philadelphia with more passengers than allowed by law. Approved by AJ Oct 8.

Oct 7 From Jacob Cracheron. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-18).

	Recommends Thomas Phoenix for claims commissioner under the French treaty.	
Oct 7	From Edouard Deutsche. LS, DNA-RG 59 (18-1053; M179-71). Explains that his violation of passenger limits on the *L'Estelle* was inadvertent and begs AJ's protection.	
Oct 7	From Robert Harper. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-10). Asks to be appointed claims commissioner under the French treaty.	
Oct 7	*From David Porter.*	*610*
Oct 7	Bill for $32.50 in pew rent for 1831 at First Presbyterian Church in Washington, receipted by John Kennedy. DS, DLC (40).	
Oct 8	*To Andrew Jackson Hutchings.*	*612*
Oct 8	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits Marine lieutenant George F. Lindsay's commission for signature.	
Oct 8	Remission of penalties against Gaud Alix and the French brig *Euphrosina* for carrying excess passengers. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0941; T967-1).	
Oct 8	Andrew Jackson Jr. to William Donelson. ALS, Benjamin H. Caldwell Jr. (37-0429). Proposes land purchases from George W. Martin and Samuel and Alexander Donelson and gives family news.	
Oct 10	From Samuel Merry. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-9). Recommends George S. Greene for consul at Santa Fe.	
Oct 10	From Harvey Strong. ALS copy, DNA-RG 59 (M639-23). Defends his conduct as consul at Glasgow and appeals for reinstatement.	
Oct 10	*From John Wilson.*	*612*
Oct 10	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits midshipmen's warrants for signature.	
Oct 10	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). States that Stephen D. McCutchon has been appointed midshipman, as his father Samuel had requested of AJ.	
Oct 10	Check to Andrew Jackson Jr. for $100. DS, DLC (40).	
Oct 11	To John Robb. AN, DNA-RG 107 (M222-30). Asks to see Philip G. Randolph on business as soon as possible.	
Oct 11	From James Gadsden. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-2). Recommends deceased Florida Territory marshal Waters Smith's son-in-law Samuel Blair to succeed him.	
Oct 11	*From Jacob Gleim.*	*615*
Oct 11	*From Nathan Morse.*	*615*
Oct 11	*From Martin Van Buren.*	*616*
Oct 11	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). States that promoting Navy midshipman James M. Watson to lieutenant in the recess of Congress would go against precedent.	
Oct 12	*To T. Griffin.*	*621*
Oct 12	From Andrew Anderson et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-2). *TPUS*, 24:568–69. Recommend Waters Smith's son-in-law Samuel Blair to succeed him as marshal in Florida.	
Oct 12	From Samuel Blair. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-2). Asks to be appointed marshal in Florida.	

Oct 12	From Nathaniel E. Dougherty. ALS, NN (18-0974). Asks to be appointed midshipman in the Navy.	
Oct 12	*From James Alexander Hamilton.*	*622*
Oct 12	From Hendrick Norvell. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M148-70). Asks to have his 1830 midshipman's reappointment backdated to his first appointment in 1828, crediting him for time between spent fruitlessly awaiting orders. Investigation and redating ordered by AJ.	
Oct 12	From Benjamin Alexander Putnam. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-2). Recommends Samuel Blair for marshal in Florida.	
Oct 12	From Joseph Simeon Sanchez. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-21). *TPUS*, 24:565–66. Solicits appointment as marshal in Florida and encloses petitions recommending him.	
[Oct 12]	From Tomas Andreu et al., Francis Gué et al., and Francisco M. Medicis et al. DSs, DNA-RG 59 (M639-21). *TPUS*, 24:566–67. Recommend Joseph S. Sanchez for marshal in Florida.	
Oct 12	From Joseph Mills White. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-24). Recommends Leslie A. Thompson for district attorney in Florida.	
Oct 13	*To Mary Crawford Dunlap.*	*623*
Oct 13	From T. Delle Vidue. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M664-2). Translation, DNA-RG 59 (18-1012). Requests the release of the Sardinian brig *Niccolo Giorgio*, seized at Philadelphia for overloading with immigrant passengers from Havre.	
Oct 13	*From John Randolph.*	*624*
Oct 13	From Charles Smith. ADS, THi (18-0984). Recommends extending Army lieutenant Moses Scott's furlough to recoup his health. Approved by AJ.	
Oct 13	From Silas Wright. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-23). Recommends John Sudam for claims commissioner under the French treaty.	
Oct 13	Check to Edward George Washington Butler for $50. DS, DLC (40).	
Oct 13	Receipted bill from John McAllister & Co. for spectacles. DS, DLC (40).	
Oct 13	Pardon for William Prestage, convicted of assault, in regard of his ample punishment and model conduct in prison. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-0976; T967-1).	
Oct 13	Ignazio Vincenzo Caravadossy de Thoet to Edward Livingston. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M664-2). Translation, DNA-RG 59 (18-1016). Sardinian consul general asks the release of the *Niccolo Giorgio*, seized for inadvertently exceeding passenger limits for its tonnage. Approved by AJ Oct 17.	
Oct 14	To Elijah Hayward. Copy, NcD (18-0993). Introduces and recommends Robert Beale.	
Oct 14	*To the Marquis de Lafayette.*	*624*
Oct 14	To William Cabell Rives. LS, DLC (18-0998). Introduces William F. Ritchie.	
Oct 14	From Walter Bowne et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-24). Recommend Alexander Thomson for consul at Glasgow.	
Oct 14	From Michael Burnham. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-24).	

	Introduces James Lawson and seconds his recommendation of Alexander Thomson for consul at Glasgow.
Oct 14	From James Alexander Hamilton. DS, DNA-RG 59 (18-1057). Attributes Edouard Deutsche's violation of passenger limits on the barque *L'Estelle* to ignorance of the law and recommends remitting the forfeiture and penalties. Approved by AJ Oct 19.
Oct 14	From James Alexander Hamilton. LS, DNA-RG 59 (18-1055). Encloses his report on the petition of Edouard Deutsche.
Oct 14	From Daniel Jackson. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-24). Introduces James Lawson, to recommend Alexander Thomson for consul at Glasgow.
Oct 14	From Daniel Jackson et al. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-9). Recommend William Graham for consul at Glasgow.
Oct 14	From Samuel Swartwout. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-24). Introduces James Lawson, to recommend Alexander Thomson for consul at Glasgow.
Oct 14	*From Martin Van Buren.* *625*
Oct 14	From Campbell Patrick White. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-24). Introduces James Lawson and recommends Alexander Thomson for consul at Glasgow.
Oct 14	Remission, on recommendation of the trial court, of Army captain Elijah Boardman's sentence of cashiering for drunkenness on duty. DS, DNA-RG 153 (18-0987).
Oct 14	William M. Price to [Andrew Jackson Donelson]. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-24). Introduces James Lawson, to recommend Alexander Thomson for consul at Glasgow.
Oct 15	To Edward Livingston. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-71). Appoints secretary of legation Auguste G. V. Davezac to be chargé d'affaires to the Netherlands.
Oct 15	Temporary commission for Auguste Genevieve Valentin Davezac as chargé d'affaires to the Netherlands. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-1005).
Oct 15	From Chandler & Howard. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Complain of frauds in pig lead smelting.
Oct 15	From Benjamin B. Cooper. ALS, DLC (40). Reports on victory in New Jersey county elections and his pending trip to Washington for the horse Bolivar.
Oct 15	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Reports in favor of midshipman Hendrick Norvell's request to backdate his appointment to 1828.
Oct 15	*Memorandum on Henry Cotten's mares.* *626*
Oct 16	From James Gadsden. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-2). Encloses and endorses a petition recommending Samuel Blair for marshal in Florida.
Oct 16	Andrew Jackson Donelson to Anthony Bledsoe Shelby. Printed extract in Shelby, *To the Electors of the Second Judicial Circuit of the State of Mississippi* (1833), T (18-1006). Promises an appointment.
Oct 17	From Edward George Washington Butler. ALS, DLC (40). Returns a $50 loan and explains his family travel plans.

[Oct 17] From James Campbell et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-8). Recommend John Fyfe for consul at Glasgow.

Oct 17 From John Ferguson. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-8). Encloses and endorses the recommendation from James Campbell et al. of John Fyfe for consul at Glasgow.

Oct 17 From Louis McLane. AN, DNA-RG 59 (M639-24). Encloses letters of Gulian C. Verplanck and Richard M. Blatchford recommending Alexander Thomson for consul at Glasgow.

Oct 17 From William J. Mills et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-6). *TPUS*, 24:569–70. Recommend John L. Doggett for marshal in Florida.

Oct 17 From G. Robinson. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-130). Requests a discharge for his minor son James R. Robinson, who enlisted in the Navy without his consent. Endorsed by AJ ordering his discharge.

Oct 17 From John Stuart Skinner. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-8). Introduces John Ferguson, to recommend John Fyfe for consul at Glasgow.

Oct 17 Check for $46.25 to Miriam Ball, administratrix of Edwin F. Ball. DS, DLC (40).

Oct 17 Appointment of James A. Dunlap as district attorney in Florida Territory. ADS, DNA-RG 59 (18-1008).

Oct 17 Temporary commission for James A. Dunlap as district attorney in Florida Territory. Printed, *TPUS*, 24:557 (18-1010).

Oct 17 Release for the Sardinian brig *Niccolo Giorgio*, seized at Philadelphia for carrying more passengers than allowed by law. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-1011; T967-1).

Oct 18 To Asbury Dickins. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-1020). Appoints him acting secretary of the Treasury during Louis McLane's absence.

Oct 18 To Levi Woodbury. ADS, DNA-RG 107 (M221-111). LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-1021). Appoints him acting secretary of war during Lewis Cass's absence.

Oct 18 *To [Levi Woodbury].* *627*

Oct 18 *From Henry Baldwin.* *628*

Oct 18 From Robert Oliver. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-10). Recommends Charles C. Harper for secretary of legation at Naples and Upton S. Heath and John Mason for claims commissioners under the French treaty.

Oct 18 *From John Randolph.* *630*

Oct 18 From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits midshipmen's warrants for signature.

Oct 18 From Levi Woodbury. AN, NjP (18-1022). Introduces Abraham Quincy.

[Oct 19] *To Robert Minns Burton.* *631*

Oct 19 From Andrew Dunlap. LS, DNA-RG 59 (18-1130). Recommends pardoning young mail pilferer Quartus M. Webb in light of his small offense, contrition, and severe sentence. Approved by AJ Oct 25.

Oct 19 From Elijah Hayward. LC, DNA-RG 49 (M25-26). Estimates the cost of running Illinois's northern boundary and recommends an advance to commissioner Lucius Lyon.

Oct 19 From Josiah Nichol. ALS, DLC (40). Reports payments from AJ's account for Hermitage repairs and supplies and praises AJ's fine cotton crop.

Oct 19 From John Pemberton. ALS copy, PHi (18-1063). Introduces James Rogers.

Oct 19 From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits an order governing the Marine Corps uniform for approval.

Oct 19 Remission of forfeiture of the French barque *L'Estelle* and of penalties against master Edouard Deutsche for exceeding passenger limits. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-1028; T967-1).

Oct 20 *To Robert Minns Burton.* *631*

Oct 20 To Frederick James Dugan. Copy, A-Ar (18-1083). Returns, to show to the family of the late Jacob A. Dumeste, a letter he was carrying at his death from John Coffee to AJ that was complimentary of Dumeste and that Dugan had found in his papers.

Oct 20 To Edward Livingston. NS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-71). Refers John Randolph's Oct 18 letter for a determination of the balance due him.

Oct 20 From Edward Livingston. LC, DNA-RG 59 (M40-22). Reports on John Randolph's accounts as minister to Russia.

Oct 20 From James Davis. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M199-1). Explains that he has not gone to Santa Fe as consul because Mexico has so far refused to recognize him.

Oct 20 From John Locke Doggett. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-6). Asks to be appointed marshal in Florida Territory.

Oct 20 From John Gibson. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-2). Declares Samuel Blair and Joseph S. Sanchez both unfit to be marshal in Florida Territory.

Oct 20 From William Jackson. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Applies for military bounty land.

Oct 20 From William T. Mooklar. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Applies for an Army disability pension.

Oct 20 From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Requests the return for copying of documents to accompany the annual report of the Navy Department.

Oct 20 Temporary commission for John Martin Baker as consul at Rio de Janeiro. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (18-1065).

Oct 20 Temporary commission for Daniel N. Pope as consul at Tabasco, Mexico. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (18-1087).

Oct 20 Temporary commission for Alexander Thomson as consul at Glasgow. Copy, DNA-RG 59 (18-1088).

Oct 20 Andrew Jackson Donelson to John Christmas McLemore. ALS, DLC (18-1070). Discusses family health, his search for a new overseer, management of his crops, stock, slaves, and horses, reconciliation with AJ, and success of the new Cabinet.

Oct [21] To [Nicholas Philip Trist]. AN, DLC (18-1093). Asks the return of John Randolph's Oct 18 letter so he can reply.

Oct 21 *To John Randolph.* *632*
Oct 21 *To John Robb.* *633*
Oct 21 *From Roley McIntosh et al.* *633*

Oct 21	From Daniel Parkman. LS, DNA-RG 59 (18-1134). Urges a pardon for young mail pilferer Quartus M. Webb.	
Oct 21	*From Martin Van Buren.*	*636*
Oct 21	*Agreement with Benjamin B. Cooper.*	*637*
Oct 22	From Daniel Jackson. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-9). Recommends William Graham for consul at Glasgow.	
Oct 22	From Watishnewau et al. DS, DNA-RG 75 (18-1098). Ottawa Indians ask that payments due them under their cession treaty of Aug 30 be apportioned equally between those removing and remaining in Ohio.	
Oct 23	*To John Henry Eaton.*	*638*
Oct 23	*To John Coffee.*	*639*
Oct 23	*To James Alexander Hamilton.*	*641*
Oct 24	To Francisco de Lima e Silva, José da Costa Carvalho, and João Braúlio Muniz. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-1119). Acknowledges their election as regents during the minority of Brazilian emperor Pedro II.	
Oct 24	To John Stuart Skinner. Photostat of LS, THer (18-1120). Baltimore *Sun*, Oct 29, 1916. Acknowledges honorary membership in the Maryland Jockey Club and allows use of his name, but declines attending the upcoming races on grounds of business and a "change in the relish of amusements" from "the advances of old age."	
[Oct 24]	From Oshkosh and Kaushkawnonew. DS, DNA-RG 75 (18-1115). *TPUS*, 12:360–62. Menominee chiefs request approval of Amable Grignon's mill privilege on the Wisconsin River.	
Oct 24	*From John Randolph.*	*641*
Oct 24	Check to Andrew Jackson Donelson for $150. DS, DLC (40).	
Oct 24	Temporary commission for John Nelson as chargé d'affaires to the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-1114).	
Oct 25	From Rowland Cromelien. Printed, *New-York Evening Post*, Nov 11, 1831 (mAJs). Presents an elastic spring mattress of his design and manufacture.	
Oct 25	To Rowland Cromelien. Printed, *New-York Evening Post*, Nov 11, 1831 (mAJs). Thanks him for his "ingenious" elastic spring mattress and praises its comfort.	
Oct 25	Pardon for Quartus Morgan Webb for pilfering money from the mail, in light of his youth, previous good character, and contrition. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-1127; T967-1).	
Oct 26	*To John Randolph.*	*643*
Oct 26	From Elijah Hayward. LC, DNA-RG 49 (M25-26). Answers R. J. Walker's complaints of laggard public land surveys in Louisiana and Mississippi.	
Oct 26	Check to Andrew Jackson Jr. for $150. DS, DLC (40).	
Oct 26	Levi Woodbury to Elijah Hayward. LS, DNA-RG 49; Copy, DNA-RG 45 (18-1136). Recommends Florida naval timberlands for reservation from sale. Reserved by AJ Feb 1, 1832.	
Oct 27	*To Andrew Jackson Jr.*	*644*
Oct 27	From Samuel Smith. LS, DNA-RG 94 (M567-61). Asks that	

Lieutenant John Hills be allowed to transfer from the infantry to the artillery.

Oct 27 — From Joseph Mills White. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-21). *TPUS*, 24:574. Encloses a petition asking Charles E. Sherman's appointment as district attorney in Florida.

Oct 28 — From Louis McLane. Copy, DNA-RG 217 (18-1144). Recommends allocating $1000 for additional clerk hire in surveyor Gideon Fitz's office. Approved by AJ.

Oct 28 — From Hugh Neisler. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Applies for an Army pension, bounty land, and arrears of pay for private Abraham Duke's widow, Mary Duke.

Oct 28 — From William Smith. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-6). Recommends Eli S. Davis for governor of Florida Territory.

Oct 29 — *From Roley McIntosh et al.* *644*

Oct 29 — *From John Randolph.* *646*

Oct 29 — *From Martin Van Buren.* *647*

Oct 30 — From John Pine Decatur. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M567-60). Asks to be continued as sutler at Cantonment Jesup.

Oct 31 — *To Henry Baldwin.* *649*

Oct 31 — *From John Donelson.* *650*

Oct 31 — *From "J. M. L."* *651*

Oct 31 — From William Turner. ALS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-728). Transmits for John Reynolds evidence of Black Hawk's depredations and threats, justifying his response.

Oct — From Edmund F. Brown et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-72). Ask AJ to dismiss all free black messengers and servants from government offices. Forwarded to AJ by Edward DeKrafft, Mar 5, 1832.

[cOct] — From Captain Pipe, Captain Montim, and Isaac Hill. DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-601). Copy, DNA-RG 46 (18-0908). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 3, pp. 223–24 (Serial 246). Delaware chiefs request that $754 they owe Cornelius Wilson be paid from their removal allowance.

[cOct] — *From John Henry Eaton.* *653*

Oct — From Robert Oliver et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-17). Recommend John Pattison for consul at Glasgow.

Nov 1 — *To John Wilson Campbell.* *654*

Nov 1 — From James Fenner. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-20). Recommends George R. Russell for consul at Manila.

Nov 1 — From Nathaniel Lynde Griswold et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-7). Recommend Alfred H. P. Edwards for consul at Manila.

Nov 1 — *From Wilson Lumpkin.* *655*

Nov 1 — From Joshua Shaw. ALS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-434). Demands payment for the use of his patent in the government's manufacture of percussion rifles for the Indians.

Nov 1 — From Roger Brooke Taney. LC, DNA-RG 60 (T412-3). Copies, DNA-RG 49 and DNA-RG 46 (18-1170); Copy, DNA-RG 75 (M234-169). *HRDoc* 123, 26th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 843–44 (Serial 387). Submits an opinion explicating clauses in the

	Choctaw treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek that authorize the sale of individual land reservations.	
Nov 1	From Quartus Morgan Webb. LS, DNA-RG 59 (18-1228). Pardoned mail pilferer pleads insolvency and asks for remission of court costs. Approved by AJ Nov 8.	
Nov 1	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits Carlile P. Patterson's midshipman's warrant for signature.	
Nov 2	From Francis Duclos. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Applies for an Army pension.	
Nov 2	From William McCreery. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommends David Acheson for claims commissioner under the French treaty.	
Nov 2	From Robert Oliver et al. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-11). Recommend Upton S. Heath for claims commissioner under the French treaty.	
[Nov 3]	*From the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.*	*656*
Nov 3	From the Arkansas Territory General Assembly. DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-29). Copy, DNA-RG 46 (18-1192). *SDoc* 512, 23d Cong., 1st sess., vol. 2, pp. 640–41 (Serial 245). *TPUS*, 21:411. Request the removal of Arkansas's Shawnees, warning of violence if they remain.	
Nov 3	*From Henry Baldwin.*	*663*
Nov 3	From John Pemberton. ALS draft, PHi (18-1194). Introduces and recommends James Dougherty, an applicant for naval supply contracts.	
Nov 3	From Roger Brooke Taney. LCs, DNA-RG 60 (M699-1; M699-2). Reports no record of an opinion by former attorney general Berrien on Georgia's right to prevent Indians from taking gold on their own land.	
Nov 4	From John Brockinton Pressley. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-6). Recommends Eli S. Davis for governor of Florida Territory.	
[Nov 4]	From Jacob W. Stuart et al. DS, THi (18-1197). Recommend William G. Stuart for a military appointment. Endorsed by AJ "very respectable recommenders."	
Nov 5	*To William Donelson.*	*665*
Nov 5	*From James Dill.*	*666*
Nov 5	From James Dill. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-16). Urges Thomas Morris's removal as marshal in New York for malfeasance and default.	
Nov 5	From James Dill. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-16). Charges New York marshal Thomas Morris with misusing federal census funds.	
Nov 5	*From John Henry Eaton.*	*666*
Nov 5	*From John Henry Eaton.*	*667*
Nov 5	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Recommends that contractor John S. Stiles be required to submit proofs backing his complaint against the Navy commissioners for rejecting his bread.	

Nov 6	From Lewis Cass. LC, DNA-RG 107 (M127-2). Reports that Lt. William T. Mooklar's disability pension claim lacks required proof that his injury was suffered in line of duty.	
Nov 6	From Lewis Cass. AN, DLC (18-1206). Encloses Hall J. Kelley's recommendation for American settlement of Oregon to counter British encroachments.	
Nov 6	*From Andrew Jackson Coffee.*	*669*
Nov 6	From David Thomas. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-10). Recommends Thomas L. Halsey Jr. for chargé d'affaires at Buenos Aires.	
Nov 7	*To Henry Baldwin.*	*669*
Nov 7	*To Benjamin B. Cooper.*	*670*
Nov 7	*To William T. Mooklar.*	*670*
Nov 7	From James Blair. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-6). Recommends Eli S. Davis for governor of Florida Territory.	
Nov 7	*From Richard Keith Call.*	*671*
Nov 7	*From Isaac Watts Crane.*	*672*
Nov 7	*From Edward Livingston.*	*674*
Nov 7	From Ebenezer Sage et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-71). Request naval protection for American whalers near the Falkland Islands.	
Nov 7	Appointment of William Coventry Henry Waddell as marshal in New York in place of Thomas Morris. ADS, DNA-RG 59 (18-1221).	
Nov 7	Check to Emily Tennessee Donelson for $50. DS, DLC (40).	
Nov 7	Check to Mary Ann Eastin for $50. DS, DLC (40).	
Nov 7	Check to Michael Anthony Giusta for $670.18. DS, DLC (40).	
Nov 7	Cornelius Van Antwerp to Abraham Van Buren. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-25). Asks his aid in procuring his nephew Isaac V. P. Van Antwerp's appointment as district attorney in Florida. Referred by AJ to the State Department.	
Nov 8	From Thomas F. Cornell. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-5). Asks to be appointed district attorney in Florida, citing his service in exposing the Adams administration's mismanagement of naval live oak reserves.	
Nov 8	From Ingoldsby Work Crawford et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-71). Request naval protection against Buenos Aires for American whalers near the Falkland Islands.	
Nov 8	From Fontaine H. Pettis. DS, DNA-RG 59 (18-1288). Requests a pardon for perjury, claiming his conviction was contrary to fact and law.	
Nov 8	*From John Randolph.*	*674*
[cNov 8]	From Richard Simons. D, DNA-RG 59 (18-1224). Begs remission of his fine and costs for assault and battery and release from imprisonment. Approved by AJ Nov 8.	
Nov 8	Release and remission of fine and costs for prisoner Richard Simons. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-1222; T967-1).	
[cNov 8]	From Singleton Townshend et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (18-1296). Fontaine H. Pettis's jurors support clemency, opining that	

	desperation had provoked him to perjury. Endorsed by AJ: "Strong presumption in favor of the prisoners innocence of swearing corruptly."	
Nov 8	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits John G. Tod's midshipman's warrant for signature.	
Nov 8	Remission of costs and order for release of pardoned mail pilferer Quartus Morgan Webb. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-1227; T967-1).	
Nov 9	*To William Burke.*	*677*
Nov 9	From Philip Lawrenson. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Requests a loan of surplus lead from a federal arsenal for his shot manufactory.	
Nov 9	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits John Heckle's sailmaker's warrant for signature.	
[cNov 9]	*Memoranda on the Dutch jewels.*	*677*
Nov 9	*Memorandum book on the Dutch jewels.*	*678*
Nov 9	*Decision on the Dutch jewels.*	*678*
Nov 9	*John Christmas McLemore to Andrew Jackson Donelson.*	*679*
Nov 10	*To Edward Livingston.*	*683*
Nov 10	From Thomas Lilly Smith. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-25). Recommends Isaac V. P. Van Antwerp for district attorney in Florida.	
Nov 10	Account with John McAllister & Co. for purchase of a pair of glasses. D, DeGH (18-1237).	
Nov 11	To Charles John, King of Sweden and Norway. LS, Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Stockholm, Sweden; LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-1240). Offers congratulations on the birth of his grandson Nicholas Augustus.	
Nov 11	*To John Randolph.*	*683*
Nov 11	*From Tilghman Ashurst Howard.*	*685*
Nov 11	From Claude Laframboise. DS, DNA-RG 75 (18-1243). Asks permission to sell part of his reservation under the 1829 Treaty of Prairie du Chien to his siblings. Endorsed by AJ that he cannot approve without knowing the consideration.	
Nov 12	*To James Alexander Hamilton.*	*686*
Nov 12	From Lewis Cass. AD, DNA-RG 77 (18-1246). LC, DNA-RG 107 (M127-2). Proposes a court of inquiry to investigate Gustavus Swan's charges against Army engineer lieutenant Stephen Tuttle. Approved by AJ Nov 14.	
Nov 12	From Daniel S. Griswold et al. Copy, DNA-RG 46 (18-1248). Urge the reappointment of Florida district judge Joseph L. Smith.	
Nov 12	From John Pope. ALS, NN (18-1256). Recommends Charles G. Elliott for cadet at West Point.	
Nov 12	From John Rosborough and George Washington Coleman. Printed, Charleston, S.C., *Southern Patriot*, Mar 1, 1832 (mAJs). Forward the proceedings of a Nov 11 anti-nullification meeting in Chester Co., S.C.	
Nov 13	*To [Charles Jones Love].*	*687*

Nov 13	*From William Carroll.*	*689*
Nov 13	From Fontaine H. Pettis. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (18-1301). Envelope, DLC (40; 18-1305). Proclaims his innocence of perjury and appeals for pardon. Endorsed by AJ to consult the case record.	
Nov 13	From Richard Ward. ALS, Mrs. Tom Bland (18-1259). Urges adoption of his ordnance improvements, versions of which have been tested and adopted in France.	
Nov 14	*To Louis McLane.*	*691*
Nov 14	*From Louis McLane.*	*692*
Nov 14	*To Thomas Swann.*	*693*
Nov 14	To Unknown. Listing of ALS, *The Francis Papers: Autographs, Manuscripts, Broadsides, Pamphlets, Etc. Left by Dr. John W. Francis* (1917), p. 25 (mAJs).	
Nov 14	*To Martin Van Buren.*	*693*
Nov 14	From Fielding A. Browne et al. LS, THer (18-1271). Recommend reappointing Florida judge James Webb.	
Nov 14	From William Hebb. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (18-1306). Extracts, Washington *Globe*, Dec 3. Explains the oath he administered to Fontaine H. Pettis and deems him innocent of perjury.	
Nov 14	From Robert John Walker. ALS, DNA-RG 107 (M222-30). Requests that Army lieutenant William Cook be detailed to continue work on the Camden & Amboy Railroad.	
Nov 14	From Levi Woodbury. LS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-130). LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Requests a copy of an 1825 Navy Department report on the rank of Lt. Alexander Eskridge. Endorsed by AJ: not found.	
Nov 14	Bill from Thomas T. Harrison for construction materials at the Hermitage. AD, DLC (40).	
Nov 15	*To Andrew Jackson Hutchings.*	*696*
Nov 15	From James Brown Ray. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-13). Recommends Amos Lane for chargé d'affaires at Buenos Aires and urges Indiana's claim to an appointment.	
Nov 15	From Thomas Swann. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (18-1308). Extract, Washington *Globe*, Dec 3. Recounts the facts of Fontaine H. Pettis's perjury conviction, regrets the case, and endorses a pardon.	
Nov 16	To Nicholas I, Emperor of Russia. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-1285). Offers congratulations on the birth of his son Nicholas.	
Nov 16	To Nicholas I, Emperor of Russia. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-1286). Offers condolences and friendship on the death of his brother Constantine.	
Nov 16	From John S. Stiles. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-130). Submits proofs that his bread rejected by the Navy Board was of good quality.	
Nov 16	From Nicholas Philip Trist. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-19). *TPUS*, 24:583. Refutes a charge that Florida marshal Thomas E. Randolph is a British citizen.	
Nov 16	*Order of pardon for Fontaine H. Pettis.*	*697*
Nov 16	Pardon of perjury for Fontaine H. Pettis. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-1287; T967-1).	

Nov 17	From John Fagan Everitt. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-3). Recommends Edward R. Byrd for marshal in Florida Territory.	
Nov 17	*From Robert Love.*	*698*
Nov 17	From John Pemberton. ALS copy, PHi (18-1323). Introduces George W. Riter, applicant for a foreign mission.	
Nov 17	From William Coventry Henry Waddell. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-7). Introduces Lucas C. Elmendorf, to inform on an applicant for claims commissioner under the French treaty.	
Nov 17	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits naval warrants for signature.	
Nov 17	Temporary commission for John K. Campbell as district attorney in Florida Territory. Printed, *TPUS* 24:585–86 (18-1321).	
Nov 17	Check to self for $150. DS, DLC (40).	
Nov 17	Check to Andrew Jackson Jr. for $300. DS, DLC (40).	
Nov 18	From John Telemachus Johnson. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-3). Recommends John Bryce for claims commissioner under the French treaty.	
Nov 18	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits a naval warrant for signature.	
Nov 19	From McClusky. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Applies for an Army pension.	
Nov 19	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits naval warrants for signature.	
Nov 19	William Nicholson Jeffers to Edward Livingston. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M219-2). Resigns as chargé d'affaires to Central America, citing ill health. Accepted by AJ Nov 19.	
Nov 20	*To John Coffee.*	*699*
Nov 20	*From Henry Baldwin.*	*701*
Nov 20	*From Paithuckoosaw et al.*	*702*
Nov 21	*To John Coffee.*	*703*
Nov 21	From Samuel T. Anderson. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-71). Requests for William H. D. C. Wright a copy of the Brazilian government's request for Wright's removal as consul at Rio de Janeiro.	
Nov 21	From Lewis Cass. DSs, DNA-RG 46 and DNA-RG 233 (18-1333). LC, DNA-RG 107 (M127-2). Synopsis on Indian affairs, DLC (76). *HRDoc* 2, 22d Cong., 1st sess., pp. 17–35 (Serial 216). Submits the annual report of the War Department.	
Nov 21	From De Witt Clinton Jr. ALS, DNA-RG 107 (M222-29). Proposes placing a Treasury Department agent in supervision over all federal public works spending to curtail waste.	
Nov 21	From William Fisher. DS, DNA-RG 59 (18-1515). Requests a pardon for passing a counterfeit banknote, pleading innocence.	
Nov 21	From George Gardom et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (18-1518). Jurors endorse a pardon for William Fisher, whose guiltier accomplice went free. Approved by AJ Nov 29.	
Nov 21	From Edward Livingston. LC, DNA-RG 59 (M40-22). Requests authorization to advance funds to State Department agent Edward Stubbs.	

[cNov 21]	From Michell Ouilmett. DS, DNA-RG 75 (18-1465). Requests permission to sell a quarter section granted him in the 1826 Potawatomi treaty.	
[cNov 21]	From Michael P. Welch and Elizabeth Ouilmett Welch. DS, DNA-RG 75 (18-1469). Request permission to sell a quarter section granted her in the 1826 Potawatomi treaty.	
Nov 21	From Thomas Jefferson Vance Owen. ALS, DNA-RG 75 (18-1467). Encloses and recommends approving the petitions of Michell Ouilmett and Michael and Elizabeth Welch.	
Nov 22	To James Eakin. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-1471). Appoints him acting second auditor during William B. Lewis's absence.	
Nov 22	From Richard Grafton Belt. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Asks to be appointed Army surgeon.	
[Nov 22]	From John Bennett et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (18-1522). Recommend a pardon for counterfeit note passer William Fisher, pleading his good character and family's distress.	
Nov 22	*From Kimansa et al.*	*703*
Nov 22	*From John Randolph.*	*705*
Nov 22	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Recommends midshipman James M. Watson for promotion to lieutenant.	
Nov 22	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits recommendations for Peter W. Spicer for Brooklyn naval storekeeper in place of Tunis Q. Craven.	
Nov 23	*From John Reynolds.*	*705*
Nov 24	*To Robert Minns Burton.*	*706*
Nov 24	*To John Robb.*	*706*
Nov 24	From De Witt Clinton Jr. AN, DNA-RG 107 (M222-29). Encloses and prays attention to his letter of Nov 21.	
Nov 24	*From James Alexander Hamilton.*	*707*
Nov 25	*From James Alexander Hamilton.*	*708*
Nov 25	*From John Robb.*	*708*
Nov 25	*From Martin Van Buren.*	*709*
[cNov 25]	From Buckner Thruston et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (18-1500). Solicit a pardon for Sandy Young, a free colored man of good character convicted of disorderly conduct in a misunderstanding. Approved by AJ Nov 25.	
Nov 25	Release and remission of fine for Sandy Young. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-1498; T967-1).	
Nov 25	Certificate by pastor Albert Barnes of Andrew Jackson Jr.'s Nov 24 marriage to Sarah Yorke. Extract, American Art Association catalog, 1926 (18-1487).	
Nov 26	From George Mifflin Dallas. ALS, PHi (18-1504). Encloses a pamphlet copy of his patriotic commencement address at Princeton on Sep 27.	
Nov 26	From Edgar A. M. Gray. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M688-79). Asks to be appointed cadet at West Point.	
Nov 27	*From John Randolph.*	*711*
Nov 28	From William Taylor Barry. DSs, DNA-RG 46 and DNA-RG 233 (18-1505). *HRDoc* 2, 22d Cong., 1st sess., pp. 46–48 (Serial 216). Submits the annual report of the Post Office Department.	

Nov 28	From Talbot Bragg. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-18). Recommends James Points for marshal in Virginia.	
Nov 28	*From John James Flournoy and James Terrill.*	*712*
Nov 28	From John Ware Hunter. ALS, DNA-RG 45 (M124-130). Requests a midshipman's appointment for his son Baldwin M. Hunter. Favorably referred by AJ to Woodbury.	
Nov 28	From John McDowell. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-18). Recommends James Points for marshal in Virginia.	
Nov 28	From S. Murdock et al. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommend David Acheson for claims commissioner under the French treaty.	
Nov 28	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Recommends reappointing resigned naval surgeon Samuel B. Malone.	
Nov 29	Pardon for William Fisher for passing a counterfeit note. LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-1514; T967-1).	
Nov 30	*From Benjamin B. Cooper.*	*713*
Nov 30	From Harmon Hines. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-18). Recommends James Points for marshal in Virginia.	
Nov 30	From John Howe Peyton. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-18). Recommends James Points for marshal in Virginia.	
Nov 30	From Roger Brooke Taney. LC, DNA-RG 60 (T412-3). *HRDoc* 123, 26th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 846–47 (Serial 387). Submits an opinion against William Shaler's claim for continued salary after resigning as consul general to Algiers.	
[cNov]	From Jacob Frick et al. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-20). Recommend George W. Riter for chargé d'affaires at Buenos Aires.	
Nov	From Elias Hamilton et al. and John S. Weed et al. LSs, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommend Calvin K. Averill for Northeast boundary commissioner.	
[Nov]	*From Elizabeth Hatch et al.*	*715*
[cNov]	From Chesley Kinney et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-18). Recommend James Points for marshal in Virginia.	
Nov	From James Seymour et al. DS, DNA-RG 94 (M688-76). Recommend Heman N. Strong for a cadet's appointment at West Point.	
Nov	From James Smith. ADS, DNA-RG 59 (21-0183). Prays a commutation of his ten-year sentence for check forging, pleading reformation and ill health (sent Jul 1832).	
[cNov]	From John Wishart et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommend David Acheson for claims commissioner under the French treaty.	
Dec	*Bank book for December.*	*717*
Dec 1	From Benjamin B. Cooper. AD, DLC (40; 18-1533). Draft of a constitution for a company to purchase the horse Bolivar.	
Dec 1	From William A. Gardner et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (19-0232). Seamen beg release from indefinite confinement without trial on false charges of piracy and desertion brought against them for protesting shipboard mistreatment. Supported by John Marshall. Pardon ordered by AJ Dec 7.	

Dec 1	*From John Jolly.*	*717*
Dec 1	From William Kinney Jr. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-18). Recommends James Points for marshal in Virginia.	
Dec 1	From John Warham Strong. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M688-76). Submits the Nov petition of James Seymour et al. for his son Heman N. Strong's appointment to West Point.	
Dec 1	From Roger Brooke Taney. Printed, *HRDoc* 123, 26th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 847–48 (Serial 387). Submits an opinion against F. C. De Krafft's claim to arrears of salary as surveyor for the city of Washington.	
Dec 1	From Joseph Taylor et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-20). Pennsylvania legislators recommend George W. Riter for chargé d'affaires at Buenos Aires.	
Dec 1	Check to Thomas B. Griffin for $250. DS, DLC (40).	
Dec 1	John Howe Peyton to William McCoy. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-18). Encloses letters recommending James Points for marshal in Virginia. Endorsed by AJ Dec 9 to withdraw Benjamin Reeder's nomination and appoint Points.	
Dec 2	From William King. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-11). Recommends William Hunter for claims commissioner under the French treaty.	
Dec 2	From Edward Livingston. ALS draft, NjP (mAJs). LS, DNA-RG 46; LS, DNA-RG 233; LC, DNA-RG 59 (18-1542). *HRDoc* 2, 22d Cong., 1st sess., p. 49 (Serial 216). Submits the annual report of the Patent Office and requests funds to hire more clerks.	
Dec 2	From Erasmus Stribling. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-18). Recommends James Points for marshal in Virginia.	
Dec 2	From Roger Brooke Taney. LC, DNA-RG 60 (T412-3). *HRDoc* 123, 26th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 848–49 (Serial 387). Sustains his opinion denying Duke Goodman's claim for a refund of his payments as surety on Mr. Weyman's customs bonds.	
Dec 2	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits William Hart's boatswain's warrant for signature.	
Dec 3	From Thomas Douglas et al. Printed, *TPUS*, 24:589–90 (19-0003). Urge Joseph L. Smith's reappointment as Florida district judge.	
Dec 3	*From John Henry Eaton and John Coffee.*	*719*
[Dec 3]	From William Ervin. ALS, DNA-RG 49 (19-0005). Asks AJ to approve his purchase of Choctaw reserves.	
Dec 3	*From Amos Kendall.*	*720*
Dec 3	*From Mary Ann Lewis.*	*724*
Dec 3	From Henry F. McCracken. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Writes about his discharge from work on the Delaware breakwater.	
Dec 3	From Levi Woodbury. DSs, DNA-RG 46 and DNA-RG 233 (19-0010). Draft, DLC (76). *HRDoc* 2, 22d Cong., 1st sess., pp. 36–45 (Serial 216). Submits the annual report of the Navy Department.	
Dec 3	*Andrew Jackson Donelson to Duff Green.*	*724*

Dec 3	*Duff Green to Andrew Jackson Donelson.*	*724*
Dec 3	*Andrew Jackson Donelson to Duff Green.*	*725*
Dec 4	*From David Burford.*	*725*
Dec 5	*From Lewis Cass.*	*729*
Dec 5	*To Elizabeth Hatch, Eliza B. Powell, and Mary H. Gaynor.*	*729*
Dec 5	*To John Overton.*	*729*
Dec 5	From Joseph Forrest. ALS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0075). Recommends Andrew J. Watson for naval purser.	
Dec 5	*From Henry Lee.*	*730*
Dec 5	From Edward Livingston. LS, DNA-RG 233 (19-0083). LC, DNA-RG 59 (M40-22). *HRDoc* 4, 22d Cong., 1st sess., pp. 1–2 (Serial 216). Reports progress and delays in compiling the census and submits a summary tabulation.	
[cDec 5]	*Memorandum book on nominations to office.*	*731*
Dec 6	*To Martin Van Buren.*	*731*
Dec 6	*Third Annual Message to Congress.*	*733*
Dec 6	*To Samuel Jackson Hays.*	*754*
Dec 6	To William Cabell Rives. AN, DLC (19-0210). Sends a copy of the annual message.	
Dec 6	To the United States Senate. Printed, *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:179 (19-0211). Richardson, 2:558. Submits the Jul 4 claims treaty with France.	
Dec 6	From Edward Livingston. LS, DNA-RG 233 (19-0204). LC, DNA-RG 59 (M40-22). *HRDoc* 4, 22d Cong., 1st sess., p. 3 (Serial 216). Submits revised population figures for federal censuses before 1830.	
Dec 6	*From David Morison.*	*756*
Dec 6	From Joseph Mills White. AL fragment, THer (mAJs). Urges reappointing Florida district judge James Webb.	
Dec 6	Check to Michael Anthony Giusta for $989.38. DS, DLC (40).	
Dec 7	*To William Donelson.*	*758*
Dec 7	To the United States Congress. DS, DNA-RG 233 (19-0239). *HRDoc* 4, 22d Cong., 1st sess., p. 1 (Serial 216); Richardson, 2:559–60. Transmits Edward Livingston's census reports of Dec 5 and 6.	
Dec 7	*To the United States Senate.*	*760*
Dec 7	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0252). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:177. Nominates James Buchanan for minister to Russia.	
Dec 7	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46; ADS draft, THer (19-0254). AD draft, DLC (76). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:177–79. Nominates Cabinet, diplomatic, and territorial officers, judges, marshals, attorneys, and surveyors general.	
Dec 7	*From Silas Enoch Burrows.*	*762*
Dec 7	From Silas Enoch Burrows. ALS, DLC (40). Praises the annual message.	
Dec 7	From Lewis Cass. LS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0224). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:182–85. Submits Army promotions and appointments.	

Dec 7 From Henry Graybill Lamar et al. DS, THer (19-0236). Georgia congressmen recommend Florida district judge James Webb for reappointment.

Dec 7 From Isaac Jetton Thomas. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (19-0237). Asks to be appointed to the West Point board of visitors. Referred by AJ to Cass to consider.

Dec 7 From Reuben Wilber et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-20). Pennsylvania legislators recommend George W. Riter for chargé d'affaires at Buenos Aires.

Dec 7 Pardon for William A. Gardner et al. on untried charges of piracy and desertion. LC, DNA-RG 59 (19-0231; T967-1).

Dec 8 *To Silas Enoch Burrows.* *764*

[Dec 8] To Edward Livingston. ANS, DNA-RG 59 (19-0261). Refers a Dec 8 Senate call for information on the arrest of American citizens by New Brunswick authorities.

Dec 8 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0263). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:180–81. Nominates customs and land officers.

Dec 8 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0266). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:181. Nominates Navy and Marine officers for promotion.

Dec 8 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0268). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:181–82. Nominates Navy and Marine officers for appointment.

Dec 8 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0271). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:182. Nominates Army officers for promotion and appointment.

Dec 8 From Robert Craig. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-18). Recommends James Points for marshal in Virginia and Julius D. Johnston for an appointment in the Marines.

Dec 8 From William McCoy. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-18). Recommends James Points for marshal in Virginia.

Dec 8 From Edward Stevens. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-18). Recommends James Points for marshal in Virginia.

Dec 8 *From James Terrill.* *765*

Dec 8 Check to John Gibbons Stuart for $420. DS, DLC (40).

Dec 9 *To Anthony Butler.* *766*

Dec 9 To the United States Senate. ADS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0282). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:185. Withdraws Benjamin Reeder and instead nominates James Points for marshal in Virginia.

[cDec 9] From Isaac Croggins. DS, DNA-RG 59 (19-0279). Prays release from confinement and remission of his $25 fine for assault and battery, which he is unable to pay. Approved by AJ Dec 9.

Dec 9 Release and remission of fine for Isaac Croggins. LC, DNA-RG 59 (19-0277; T967-1).

Dec 9 From Ridley Livingston. ADS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-14). Asks to be appointed consul at Manila.

Dec 9 From John Warren et al. Copy, DNA-RG 46 (19-0284). Urge Joseph L. Smith's reappointment as Florida district judge.

Dec 9 From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1).

	Submits George M. Fowler's midshipman's warrant for signature.	
Dec 9	Check to William Berkeley Lewis for $589.53. DS, DLC (40).	
Dec 9	Receipt from William Berkeley Lewis for $589.53 to purchase Madeira wine. ADS, DLC (40). Bassett, 4:381.	
Dec 10	*To Robert Love.*	*767*
Dec 10	From Lewis & Co. et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-15). Request the appointment of a consul at Manchester, England.	
Dec 10	Cyrus Henry Avery to Philander Stephens. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M567-58). Requests an Army discharge for his brother Abel. Referred by AJ to Cass to discharge him "forthwith" if underage.	
[Dec 11]	From Samuel Carr et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-19). Applaud AJ's nomination of Thomas E. Randolph for marshal in Florida.	
Dec 11	From Charles Henry Smith. ALS, Early American History Auctions, Inc., 1998 (mAJs). Requests reappointment as Army paymaster. Approved by AJ, presuming no objection.	
Dec 12	*To Lewis Cass.*	*768*
Dec 12	*To James Alexander Hamilton.*	*768*
Dec 12	From John Campbell. LC, DNA-RG 50 (19-0288). Submits accounts of the Treasurer's office for 1830–31.	
Dec 12	From Samuel Roger Gibson. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-6). Recommends Eli S. Davis for governor of Florida Territory.	
Dec 12	*From Llewellyn Jones.*	*769*
Dec 12	From John King et al. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-24). New York congressmen recommend Walker Todd for secretary to the claims commission under the French treaty.	
Dec 12	From William Henry Terrett. DS, DNA-RG 59 (19-0312). Protests his unjust assault conviction for resisting illegal arrest, and prays a pardon. Approved by AJ Dec 15.	
Dec 12	Check to self for $100. DS, DLC (40).	
Dec 13	To the United States Congress. DSs, DNA-RG 46 and DNA-RG 233; Draft, DNA-RG 59 (19-0292). *HRDoc* 12, 22d Cong., 1st sess., p. 1 (Serial 216); Richardson, 2:560. Recommends an appropriation to reward master Bernardo de Soto and the crew of the Spanish brig *Leon* for saving Americans from the shipwrecked *Minerva*.	
Dec 13	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0301). *SDoc* 3, 22d Cong., 1st sess., p. 1 (Serial 212); Richardson, 2:560. Transmits information on the arrest and release of American citizens by authorities of New Brunswick.	
Dec 13	From William Drayton. ALS, PHi (19-0290). Recommends reappointing Charleston customs collector James R. Pringle. Endorsed by AJ to reappoint.	
Dec 13	*From Mary Crawford Dunlap.*	*770*
Dec 13	*From Samuel Jackson Hays.*	*771*
Dec 14	From Roger Brooke Taney. LC, DNA-RG 60 (T412-3). *HRDoc* 123, 26th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 852–53 (Serial 387). Upholds the Treasury's refusal of Samuel Grice's claim for money he forfeited by not completing his naval timber supply contract on time.	

Dec 14	From William Wilkins. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (19-0308). Endorses a pardon for counterfeiter William Rice. Approved by AJ Dec 14.
Dec 14	Pardon for counterfeiter William Rice. LC, DNA-RG 59 (19-0304; T967-1).
Dec 14	Check to Andrew Jackson Donelson for $304. DS, DLC (40).
Dec 14	Check to self for $96. DS, DLC (40).
Dec 15	From George Mifflin Dallas. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-15). Vouches for the signers of the Dec 10 request for an American consulate at Manchester, England.
[Dec 15]	From Eli Simpson Davis. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-6). Asks to be appointed governor of Florida Territory and praises the annual message.
Dec 15	From Samuel Hammond. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-6). Recommends Eli S. Davis for governor of Florida.
Dec 15	From David Napier. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-29). Proposes to furnish machinery for manufacturing musket balls.
Dec 15	From John Pemberton. ALS draft, PHi (19-0309). Recommends Henry D. Gilpin for district attorney in Pennsylvania.
Dec 15	From Thomas Williams. AD, DNA-RG 59 (M639-6). Recommends Eli S. Davis for governor of Florida Territory.
Dec 15	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Submits Nathaniel G. Bay's midshipman's warrant for signature.
Dec 15	Pardon for assault for William Henry Terrett. LC, DNA-RG 59 (19-0311; T967-1).
Dec 16	From Lewis Cass. LS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0318). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:186. Submits Charles H. Smith's reappointment as Army paymaster.
Dec 16	From John Gilmore. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-1). Recommends David Acheson for claims commissioner under the French treaty.
Dec 16	From Ohio legislators. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-29). Recommend John Shelby for Indian agent.
Dec 17	To Edward Livingston. AN, DNA-RG 59 (M639-15). Inquires whether to appoint a consul at Manchester, England, and proposes James McHenry.
Dec 17	*To Martin Van Buren.* *772*
Dec 17	From Lewis Cass. LS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0320). LC, DNA-RG 107 (M127-2). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:191. Submits Dennis H. Mahan's appointment as professor of engineering at West Point.
Dec 17	From Lewis Cass. LS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0323). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:190. Submits John Hills's appointment as lieutenant of artillery.
Dec 17	From Martin Gordon. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-16). Forwards letters from Charles A. Miller complaining of Edward Baxter, vice consul at Dundee, and recommending his father John B. Miller for consul.
Dec 17	*From Cave Johnson.* *775*
Dec 17	From Catharine King. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Applies for arrears of pay due her late husband Colonel William King.

Dec 17	From Edward Livingston. LSs, DNA-RG 46 and DNA-RG 233; LC, DNA-RG 59 (19-0329). AL draft, NjP (mAJs). *HRDoc* 21, 22d Cong., 1st sess., pp. 1–2 (Serial 217). Reports on a French complaint against charging foreign tonnage duties on ships in ballast from Martinique and Guadeloupe.
Dec 17	From John Pemberton. ALS copy, PHi (19-0339). Forwards and endorses James Page's application to be district attorney in Pennsylvania.
Dec 18	From John Calvin Fletcher. ALS, DNA-RG 94 (M688-79). Asks to be appointed cadet at West Point.
[Dec 18]	From Samuel C. Hamilton et al. DS, DNA-RG 94 (M688-79). Recommend John C. Fletcher for West Point cadet.
[Dec 18]	From Thomas Swann Jr. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-23). Asks to be appointed secretary to the claims commission under the French treaty.
Dec 18	From Thomas Swann Jr. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-23). Discusses his recommenders for secretary to the claims commission under the French treaty.
Dec 18	Henry Baldwin to William Berkeley Lewis. ALS (at 1833), DLC (43). Praises AJ's annual message and analyzes his position and options on the tariff and BUS. Endorsed by AJ.
Dec 19	*To Latham Burrows Avery.* *778*
Dec 19	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0358). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:190. Nominates John Hills for lieutenant of artillery.
Dec 19	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0360). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:186. Nominates Charles H. Smith for reappointment as Army paymaster.
Dec 19	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0362). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:186–87. Nominates customs officers for reappointment.
Dec 19	*To Martin Van Buren.* *779*
Dec 19	From Asa Child et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-2). Recommend Moses Benjamin for consul at British Guiana.
Dec 19	From George Hickman et al. DS, DNA-RG 107 (M222-31). Request Henry F. McCracken's reinstatement on the Delaware breakwater.
Dec 19	From Thomas S. Knapp et al. DS, DNA-RG 77 (19-0354). Request that the government acquire, complete, and maintain the road from the Maumee rapids to Detroit.
Dec 19	*From John Randolph.* *780*
[Dec 19]	Andrew Jackson Donelson to Pierre Augustus Barker. Printed extract and facsimile of cover franked by AJ, Matthew Bennett sale 301 (mAJs). States that Barker did not solicit his brother-in-law Stewart's appointment as Buffalo postmaster on their Nashville visit to AJ in 1830.
Dec 20	To Walter Lowrie. AN, DNA-RG 46 (19-0369). Requests a copy of the Senate's confidential printing of the Northeast boundary award and documents.

Dec 20	From Adam King. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-29). Recommends Penrose Robinson for Indian agent at Green Bay.
Dec 20	From Edward Livingston. D, DNA-RG 59 (M179-72). AD draft, NjP (mAJs). Argues for the president's right to arrest the legal proceedings against the stolen royal Dutch jewels via a nolle prosequi, and his duty in justice to restore them to their owner.
Dec 20	Check to Andrew Jackson Jr. for $100. DS, DLC (40).
Dec 21	From Lewis Cass. LS, DNA-RG 59 (M179-71). Reports finding no correspondence with Georgia's governor over its boundary with Florida to answer a House call.
Dec 21	*To Edward Livingston.* *781*
Dec 21	To the United States Congress. DSs, DNA-RG 46 and DNA-RG 233 (19-0392). *HRDoc* 21, 22d Cong., 1st sess., p. 1 (Serial 217); Richardson, 2:560. Transmits Livingston's Dec 17 report on tonnage duties on vessels from Martinique and Guadeloupe.
Dec 21	To the United States Senate. Printed, *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:187 (19-0396). Richardson, 2:560–61. Communicates the official British acceptance of the Northeast boundary arbitration award.
Dec 21	From Lewis Cass. LS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0371). Copy, DNA-RG 94 (M567-148). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:189–90. Submits promotions of artillery officers.
Dec 21	From Connecticut residents. Draft, CtHi (19-0375). Recommend Henry L. Ellsworth for claims commissioner under the French treaty.
Dec 21	From Edmond-Charles Genêt. ALS draft & ALS copy, DLC (19-0377). *Albany Argus*, Jan 16, 1832. Presents a Roman medal struck in honor of Caesar's conquests.
[cDec 21]	From Edward Graham. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Transmits a memorial from the Creek delegation.
Dec 21	Check to Michael Anthony Giusta for $200. DS, DLC (40).
Dec 22	*To John Randolph.* *782*
Dec 22	From Benjamin B. Cooper. ALS, DLC (40). Reports his arrangements for a new company to purchase Bolivar and progress in selling shares.
[cDec 22]	From John Fuller. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (20-0566). Begs a release from prison on his crime of embezzling from the Boston BUS branch, pleading his contrition and effort at restitution, his harsh sentence, and his ill health and needy family.
Dec 22	From Jane Byron Lazell Fearing Fuller. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (20-0572). Pleads for clemency for her husband John Fuller.
Dec 22	From Jacob Summerlin et al. Copy, DNA-RG 46 (19-0397). Urge Joseph L. Smith's reappointment as Florida district judge.
[Dec 22]	Check to Tucker & Thompson for $339.20. DS, DLC (58; 19-0401).
Dec 23	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0408). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:189. Nominates artillery officers for promotion.

Dec 23	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0410). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:190. Nominates Francis Baylies for chargé d'affaires at Buenos Aires.
Dec 23	*From Anthony Butler.* *783*
Dec 23	From Churchill Caldom Cambreleng. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Recommends Adam D. Steuart for Indian agent.
Dec 23	From James Jackson. ALS, DNA-RG 75 (19-0402). Encloses a memorial from the Ottawa Indians.
Dec 23	*From Thomas Rothmaler Mitchell.* *785*
Dec 24	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0414). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:191. Nominates Frederick E. Bunker for consul at Constantinople.
[cDec 24]	From James Atkins. DS, DNA-RG 59 (19-0605). Asks release from jail and remission of his fine and costs for assault and battery, which he is unable to pay. Approved by AJ Dec 24.
[Dec 24]	From Richard Hall. D, DNA-RG 59 (19-0622). Asks remission of his fine and costs for assault and battery, which he is unable to pay. Approved by AJ Jan 5, 1832.
Dec 24	From John Pemberton. ALS copy, PHi (19-0412). Introduces David Acheson, applicant for claims commissioner under the French treaty.
Dec 24	From Hugh Smith et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-15). Request the appointment of a consul at Manchester, England.
Dec 24	Bill from Lewis Veron & Co. for White House furnishings. DS, DNA-RG 217 (M235-701). Receipted Feb 15, 1832.
Dec 24	John M. Davis to Edward Livingston. ALS, DNA-RG 59 (19-0461). Reports that pardoned counterfeiter William Rice remains confined for inability to pay court costs. Remission and release ordered by AJ Dec 30.
Dec 25	From Jimmy Johnson et al. DS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-832). Iroquois chiefs tout their prosperity and improvement and praise agent Justus Ingersoll.
Dec 26	From Silas Enoch Burrows. ALS, DNA-RG 76 (19-0416). Requests measures to recover the cargoes of his sealing ships seized by pirates at the Falklands. Referred by AJ to Livingston.
Dec 26	*From Anthony Butler.* *786*
Dec 26	*From William Carroll.* *787*
Dec 26	From Hartwell Carver. ALS, DLC (40). Recommends mountain liverwort to treat AJ's bleeding from the lungs.
Dec [26]	*From Louis McLane.* *787*
[Dec 26]	From Thomas Nichols. DS, DNA-RG 59 (19-0760). Asks release from jail and remission of his fine and costs for petty theft, which he is unable to pay. Approved by AJ Jan 18, 1832.
Dec 26	From George Michael Troup. AN, DNA-RG 75 (M234-236). Transmits the Western Creeks' appeal of Oct 21.
Dec 26	Andrew Jackson Hutchings to John Donelson Coffee. ALS, THi (19-0418). Discusses his love life and praises Sarah Y. Jackson. Postscript by AJ with respects to the Coffees.
Dec 27	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0430). *Senate*

Executive Proceedings, 4:191. Nominates Dennis H. Mahan for professor of engineering at West Point.

[Dec 27] From Joseph Eneix. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Asks to be appointed Indian agent.

Dec 27 From Andrew Gregg & Co. et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-15). Request the appointment of a consul at Manchester, England.

Dec 27 From Elijah Hayward. LC, DNA-RG 49 (M25-27). Submits a statement of Mississippi lands located by Joseph Martin's heirs under a private law of 1824.

Dec 27 From Thomas J. Snowden. ALS, DNA-RG 233 (19-0427). Submits a claim for his pay and expenses in the Florida campaign of 1818.

Dec 27 AJ's account for Andrew J. Hutchings's travel expenses to Philadelphia and Charlottesville. ADS, THi (19-0426). Runs to Jan 5, 1832.

Dec 28 To John Rosborough and George Washington Coleman. Printed, Charleston, S.C., *Southern Patriot*, Mar 1, 1832 (mAJs). Thankfully acknowledges their approving Nov 12 message and pledges his efforts "to draw closer the bonds of our Union."

Dec 28 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0446). LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:192. Nominates Alexander H. Coleman for naval purser.

Dec 28 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0448). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:192. Nominates James C. Cole for customs collector at New Bern, N.C.

Dec 28 From Edward Livingston. DS, DNA-RG 233; LC, DNA-RG 59 (19-0432). Draft, NjP (mAJs). *HRDoc* 43, 22d Cong., 1st sess., pp. 1–2 (Serial 217). Reports on official correspondence with Georgia concerning its boundary with Florida.

[Dec 28] From Daniel Simmons et al. Copy, DNA-RG 46 (19-0435). *TPUS*, 24:597–99. Recommend Joseph L. Smith for reappointment as Florida district judge.

Dec 28 From Ebenezer Smith. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-29). Applies for a Revolutionary pension.

Dec 28 Roger Brooke Taney to Edward Livingston. Copy, DLC (40). *HRDoc* 123, 26th Cong., 2d sess., pp. 853–60 (Serial 387). Tenders a legal opinion concurring that AJ has authority to arrest condemnation proceedings against the Princess of Orange's stolen jewels and restore them to her.

Dec 29 To Mr. Maguire. LS, Swann Galleries, Sale 2043 (mAJs). Thanks him for an offer of venison and pheasants.

Dec 29 To the United States House of Representatives. DS, DNA-RG 233 (19-0450). *HRDoc* 43, 22d Cong., 1st sess., p. 1 (Serial 217); Richardson, 2:561. Transmits Livingston's Dec 28 report on the boundary line between Georgia and Florida.

Dec 29 To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0453). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:192. Nominates John Spencer for receiver of the Fort Wayne land office.

Dec 29 *From James Watson Webb.* *788*

Dec 29	Receipted bill from Charles S. Fowler for earrings and necklace. DS, DLC (42). Runs to Feb 12, 1833.	
Dec 30	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0463). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:192. Nominates government directors of the BUS for 1832.	
Dec 30	To the United States Senate. DS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0465). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:192. Nominates Henry D. Gilpin for district attorney in Pennsylvania.	
Dec 30	From William Drayton et al. Abstract, DNA-RG 107 (M22-28). Recommend Robert Lebby for assistant Army surgeon.	
Dec 30	From George Huyler. ADS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-11). Asks to be appointed consul at Nassau in place of John Storr.	
Dec 30	From Josiah Nichol. ALS, DLC (40). Encloses AJ's account and gives news of cold weather and congratulations on AJ Jr.'s marriage.	
Dec 30	From Levi Woodbury. LC, DNA-RG 45 (M472-1). Presents copies of the naval register for 1832.	
Dec 30	Remission of court costs and discharge from imprisonment for pardoned counterfeiter William Rice. LC, DNA-RG 59 (19-0459; T967-1).	
[Dec 31]	From Edwin R. Alberti et al., Daniel S. Griswold et al., and Peter Suarez et al. Copies, DNA-RG 46 (19-0467, 19-0474, 19-0488). *TPUS*, 24:597, 600–605. Recommend Joseph L. Smith for reappointment as Florida district judge.	
Dec 31	From Lewis Cass. LS, DNA-RG 46 (19-0472). *Senate Executive Proceedings*, 4:194–95. Submits Army promotions.	
Dec 31	From George Mifflin Dallas. ALS, DNA-RG 107 (M222-31). Presents the Dec 19 petition for Henry F. McCracken's reinstatement on the Delaware breakwater.	
[Dec 31]	From Daniel McRae et al. Copy, DNA-RG 46 (19-0483). *TPUS*, 24:620. Solicit Joseph L. Smith's reappointment as Florida district judge.	
Dec 31	From Thomas Jefferson Vance Owen. ALS, DNA-RG 75 (19-0486). Submits and endorses Claude Laframboise's Nov 11 petition.	
Dec 31	From Samuel Russel et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-4). Recommend Roswell Chapin for secretary of Michigan Territory or territorial supreme court clerk.	
Dec 31	From John Tipton. ALS, DNA-RG 75 (M234-354). Resigns as Indian agent.	
Dec 31	James Tallmadge Jr. to Aaron Ward. ALS, DLC (40). Explains his role in the 1824 presidential election in New York, avows his past and present support for AJ, and requests a show of favor from him.	
[cDec]	*To Lewis Cass.*	*789*
[Dec]	*To the United States Senate (not sent).*	*791*
[cDec]	From George Burd et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-22). Pennsylvania congressmen recommend William R. Smith for claims commissioner under the French treaty.	

[cDec]	From Charles Herring and Christopher Richardson. D, DNA-RG 59 (M50-16). Owners of the British ship *Francis and Eliza* seek indemnity for her illegal seizure and condemnation by U.S. customs officials in 1819.	
[cDec]	From Oran Gray Otis et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-24). Recommend Walker Todd for secretary to the claims commission under the French treaty.	
[c1831]	To [Louis McLane]. Copy, DNA-RG 217 (17-0092). Clarifies that the Aug 6 rule requiring dismissal of government clerks who do not pay their debts applies only to debts contracted under his administration.	
[1831]	From William Carroll. ALS fragment, DLC (75; 17-0076). Discusses Mexican relations, presidential election prospects, and Indian removal.	
[c1831]	From John Coffee. AL fragment, DLC (75). Discusses Choctaw-Chickasaw relations and his and AJ Hutchings's crops.	
[c1831]	From Felix Grundy. ANS, NjP (17-0086). Reports that he has filed a writ of error with the Supreme Court in Asa Green's law case.	
[c1831]	From James Hall. ADS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-22). Accuses Florida marshal Waters Smith of official persecution and swindling over a tract of live oak timber land.	
1831	From Joseph Hammons, Joseph Morrill Harper, and Thomas Chandler. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-5). Recommend New Hampshire marshal Pearson Cogswell for reappointment.	
[1831]	From Philander Stephens et al. DS, DNA-RG 59 (M639-11). Recommend George W. Hughes for consul at Tangier.	
[1831]	From Thompson & Homans. Abstract, TNJ (17-0094). Presentation copy of a new edition of *The Federalist*. Inscribed by AJ.	
[c1831]	*Memorandum on the Cabinet and the Eaton affair.*	*794*
[c1831]	*Memorandum on the Seminole controversy and the Eaton affair.*	*797*
[c1831]	*Exposition on the Seminole controversy.*	*804*
[c1831]	Endorsement noting pedigree of Henry Cotten's two mares in AJ's possession. AN, DLC (74; 16-0074).	
[1831]	Memorandum on Duke Goodman's claim for a refund of his payments as surety on Mr. Weyman's customs bonds. AD, DLC (40).	
[c1831]	Memorandum valuing two slave boys and a girl at $850. AN, DLC (74; 16-0074).	
1831	List of furniture and dinnerware acquired for the Hermitage in 1831. D in AJ Jr.'s hand, DLC (78).	
1831	Statement by John Coffee of taxable property for 1831, including six Florence town lots held by AJ for Andrew J. Hutchings. ADS, THi (17-0081).	

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