

er, Nathaniel Macon, of North Carolina, and himself, who controlled legislation in the House.<sup>8</sup> In 1806, says Adams,<sup>9</sup> the President "was glad to conciliate Joseph Nicholson, next to Randolph the most formidable 'old Republican' in public life." "I had anticipated your appointment," said Caesar Rodney, of Delaware, "to one of the best places in the gift of the country."<sup>10</sup> In 1805, he was unanimously chosen by the Governor and Council of Maryland as agent of the state to arrange a sale of English funds held by the state and to re-invest in American securities. And he was made one of the managers of the impeachment of Samuel Chase. But Nicholson was not a man of wealth, he had a family of a wife and six children, his pay as a Representative, \$6. for each day of actual session, brought him less than \$1,000 in a year, and he had become so pressed for money that he decided he must abandon his public career. In January of 1806, the Governor and Council offered him the position of Associate Judge of the second judicial district which included his home county, but he declined it. The salary of that position was \$1400 a year. It was in the latter part of March, 1806, that he was offered the position of Chief Judge of the sixth district, which included Baltimore and Harford Counties, a place which carried a salary of \$2,200 a year. The constitution of the state did not then require previous

8. Henry Adams, *Life of John Randolph*, (Amer. Statesmen Ser.) 80.

9. Henry Adams, *History of the United States from 1801 to 1817*, III, 166 and 167. William Cabell Bruce, *John Randolph of Roanoke*, I, 252.

10. Nicholson Papers, Letter April 18, 1806.

"It was well understood that he was to have Chase's place on the Supreme Bench," if Chase had been removed. Beveridge, *Life of John Marshall*, III, 171.