

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

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Maryland Gazette.

ANNAPOLIS, THURSDAY, October 18, 1804.

From the Political and Commercial Register.
TO THE MARQUIS DE CASA YRUJO.

SIR,

YOUR acknowledged attempt to corrupt my fidelity as a citizen, by engaging my services to support the reasonings of a foreign minister, you have dared to add the atrocity of impeaching the truth of my declaration, which had been made under the sacred obligations of an oath.

In the nature of your employment, and the paucity of your means, you might have found an excuse, as well as a motive, for the former part of your conduct; in the mortification of your failure only, can even the shadow of a cause be traced for this last departure from all that is honourable, just, and true.

The guarantee of the nation will protect your person; but, as that guarantee cannot, in this country, be extended, by any construction, to invest a foreign minister with the privilege of falsely charging a citizen of the United States with perjury, and of promulgating that charge through the medium of a newspaper, neither your office, nor all the sanctions of diplomacy shall restrain my refutation of the deliberate falsehood, nor prevent the refutation being made through the same channel.

In your belief that "political intolerance" had prevented me to receive with "less reluctance" the communication of your proposals, you may have exhibited a correct view of your own mind, however grossly you were deceived in the analogy which it suggests.

The circumstances of that communication were minutely and correctly detailed in my deposition, and, on a careful review of that statement, I solemnly affirm that every part of the deposition is true. I shall therefore leave you to enjoy the honour and the benefit of the evasions and contradictions which you have attempted. By those contradictions you have endeavored to invalidate the disinterested oath of a man, in the relations of private character, would deem himself degraded by a comparison with the Marquis de Casa Yrujo. A man, sir, who holds testimonials of personal worth, and public service, from different magistrates of his nation, which will obtain equal consideration with your boasted nobility, for they are certainly quite as honourable, and even of an ancient date than the title you bear.

You doubtless presumed that you had only to contradict "the editor of a newspaper, whose sheets" (understanding you had selected them to diffuse your calumnies!) "are scarcely to be seen across the waters of the Schuylkill and the Delaware, who is without influence in the government, and without personal influence," effectually to dissipate all that he had stated under the obligations of his oath. In this presumption, however, you have only betrayed "a wicked and a miserable head." Where we are both wrong, it is not, I hope, an undue assumption to suppose that I should obtain equal credence with Mr. Lincoln, abstracted from the sanctions of my oath.

On the present occasion your malignity has forced me to a course of proceeding, in the vindication of truth, of which, under all the "political intolerance" you have mentioned, I had heretofore scorned to avail myself. By the nature of your infamous imputation, I am compelled, for the information of those to whom I may be unknown, to exhibit such documents as, in connexion with the facts I have stated, establish my claims to belief against the contradictions with which you have unblushingly dared to attack me.

When my fellow-citizens of the United States, and people of other countries, shall have examined the vouchers of character, the publication of which has been thus extorted from me; when they have read that on the part of major Jackson there could have existed a single motive for misstatement or distortion from truth in framing his deposition; when they shall likewise have reflected that on the part of Marquis de Casa Yrujo, every motive arising out of corruption, every wish to avert the consequences of an unsuccessful attempt, were combined in the forcible degree, to prompt his perversion of the truth; when these results are dispassionately considered, there will remain but one opinion on the subject. Sir, I even persuade myself that your own name, thus informed, will pronounce that you have degraded the dignity of your office, and violated your obligation.

Your idle threat of "demanding the punishment of Jackson from the government" I laugh to scorn, and consign to its merited contempt.

It is not in this country that a citizen can be punished for obeying the laws by disclosing the designs of

a foreign minister. Nor is it within the control of any government to prevent a citizen of the United States from repelling such a charge as you have bro't against me; nor of giving his refutation of the calumny through the same medium, with that you have chosen for its promulgation; a public newspaper; could any other doctrine prevail, our citizens would indeed become the miserable vassals of those "distinguished slaves," about whom you have prated.

W. JACKSON.

Philadelphia, October 9, 1804.

From the letters with which I was honoured by general Washington, I have selected the two, which are subjoined; on account of their dates, and the subjects to which they relate.

The first was received on the expiration of my military service, which at the age of twenty-four, had embraced the period of the American war.

The second was received when I was leaving the family of general Washington (then president of the United States) to enter on the practice of the law.

It was my pride and my happiness to preserve the friendship of that exalted man to the close of his illustrious life:

Princeton, November 1, 1783.

DEAR SIR,

Your letter reached me yesterday, and informed me of your intention to embark next week for Europe.

Wishing, from the esteem I entertain for your character, to render you every service in my power, I could not avoid troubling you with the two enclosed letters—though your acquaintance in France made it almost unnecessary.

You will please to accept my thanks for your obliging offer, and my wishes for your safe, pleasant and prosperous voyage.

With great esteem,

I am, dear sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

Major JACKSON.

Philadelphia, December 26, 1791.

DEAR SIR,

At the same time that I acknowledge the receipt of your letter, notifying me of your intention to enter upon a professional pursuit, and during the ensuing term propose yourself for admittance as a practitioner of law in the supreme court of the state of Pennsylvania, I beg you to be persuaded that my best wishes will accompany you in that or in any other walk into which your interest or inclination may lead you.

That your determination is the result of the best view you have of your circumstances and expectations, I take for granted, and therefore shall say nothing, which might embarrass the decision; but with pleasure equal to the justice of it shall declare to you, that your department has been regulated by principles of integrity and honour, and that the duties of your station have been executed with ability; and I embrace the occasion your address has afforded me, to thank you for all your attentions, and for the services which you have rendered me since you have been a member of my family.

Let your departure from it be made perfectly convenient to yourself—and believe me to be, with sincere esteem and regard,

Dear sir,

Your affectionate and obliged servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

Major JACKSON.

The following letter was addressed to me by gen. Lincoln, when I resigned the office of assistant secretary at war.—And it is my boast, as it has been my happiness, to have enjoyed for twenty-six years, the constant esteem and affection of this gallant soldier, this most amiable, and most respectable man.

Princeton, October 30, 1783.

I was this morning honoured, my dear friend, with the receipt of your letter of this date, purporting your wish to resign the office of assistant secretary at war.

While my own ease and convenience, in a tone loud and explicit, caution me against complying with your request, the more silent, but persuasive voice of friendship and justice prevail, and tell me, that I must sacrifice the former to your interest and happiness, and that I must, however reluctantly, as your future prospects in life are involved in the measure, accept your resignation.

Permit me, my dear sir, before I take leave of you, to return you my warmest thanks for your meritorious services in the field, as my aid-de-camp, as well as for those you have rendered as my assistant in the war office. These services, I have the pleasure to assure you, have been seen, also, acknowledged and approved by your country;—besides I have enjoyed real satisfaction in your private friendship, your faithfulness

and integrity, have hourly increased by affection and esteem for you. Adieu, my dear friend; that the best of Heaven's blessings may encircle you, that your path in life may be smooth and prosperous, your course through it easy and happy, and that you may finally smile, in unceasing bliss, is the prayer of your affectionate friend,

B. LINCOLN.

Major JACKSON.

The following is one of the several letters which were written by Mr. Jefferson to introduce me to the American ministers in Europe.—Not having visited Spain this letter was not delivered to its address. It was transmitted to Mr. Jefferson, and returned by him to me, since he has been president of the United States.

Philadelphia, June 1, 1793.

DEAR SIR,

The bearer hereof is major Jackson, formerly of the army, and afterwards of the president's family. Supposing it possible he may see you at Madrid, I with pleasure make him known to you, as a gentleman of information, talents and worth. He merits well any attentions you can shew him, and I also will be thankful for them, should he, from the circumstances of the times, need your official interferences. I am sure that, as one among our best-citizens, he will have the benefit of them. I am with sincere and constant attachment,

Dear sir,

Your affectionate friend,

TH: JEFFERSON.

Mr. SHORT, minister resident of the U. S. of America at the Hague, and one of their commissioners plenipotentiaries now at Madrid.

Were it necessary to multiply these proofs, they could be drawn from my correspondence with the most respectable men of our country, among whom I may here be permitted to introduce the name of general Pinckney, under whose command, and in whose regiment, I served as a subaltern and captain in the first years of the revolution-war. It was then my pride to emulate the noble example, as it has been my happiness, for almost thirty years, to preserve the esteem and affection of this distinguished statesman and soldier.

No impartial, no honest man can for a moment believe, that a character thus acquired and maintained, could have been departed from by the smallest misstatement of a most contemptible communication, in which the person making the representation had not even the shadow of an interest for perverting the truth.

Enough, I trust, has now been stated to repel the scandalous aspersions.

More would be unnecessary, and thus much was required to vindicate the integrity of an honest fame.

W. JACKSON.

SECRET FRENCH POLICE.

The following article is made the subject of a private letter from Paris of a recent date:

"The present secret French Police is founded upon the plan of the Secret German Tribunals, during the twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, with the only exception that it secretly inspects or removes obnoxious or suspected persons; whilst they secretly condemned, and secretly executed every person incurring their displeasure. In the present French system, all forms are laid aside; in the other, the forms were more terrible than death itself. Under the present system, persons disappear from society, to be shut up in dungeons, to be transported, or to be shot, without often knowing the cause, equally unknown to the gaoler and by their executioners. It is, and remains, the secret of government. Formerly the accused were summoned, tried, acquitted, or condemned; had time to prepare themselves for defence or by flight to escape, if possible, their persecutors. Under the present system, all flight is impossible; escape avails nothing, because the agents of our secret police are every where, in England as in Russia, in America as in Africa, in Turkey as in the East-Indies; they all possess the description [signalement] of the person persecuted; they are informed of his habits, places of resort, and have a fac simile of his hand writing. Unknown to each other, these agents act in uniform by their reports as by their actions. The Duke of Enghein, Moreau, Pichegru, Georges, and others, were watched by hundreds of agents for years, of whom not two knew each other. Louis XVIII. at Warsaw, and the Bourbons at London, are yet surrounded by numerous agents unknown and invisible to them, as to each other. The transactions of the Cabinets of St. Petersburg, of Vienna, and of Berlin, are as well known to our government, as those of Madrid, Florence, Naples, St. Cloud, the Hague, or of Bernes.