

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1808.

Maryland Gazette.

ANNAPOLIS, THURSDAY, November 10, 1808.

From the Spirit of Seventy-Six.

The following interesting correspondence between the President of the United States and Mr. Monroe, is published by consent of the President, at the request of Mr. Monroe.

Washington, Feb. 18, 1808.

MY DEAR SIR,

I see with infinite grief a contest arising between yourself and another who have been very dear to each other, and equally so to me. I sincerely pray that these dispositions may not be affected between you:—with me I confidently trust they will not: for independently of the dictates of public duty which prescribe neutrality to me, my sincere friendship for you both will insure its sacred observance. I suffer no one to converse with me on the subject. I already perceive my friend Clinton estranging himself from me. No doubt lies are carried to him, as they will to the other two candidates, under forms which however false, he can scarcely question. Yet I have been equally careful as to him also never to say a word on this subject. The object of the contest is a fair and honourable one, equally open to you all, and I have no doubt the personal conduct of each will be so chaste as to offer no ground of dissatisfaction with each other, but your friends will not be as delicate. I know too well from experience the progress of political controversy, and the exarcebation of spirit into which it degenerates, not to fear for the continuance of your mutual esteem. One piquing thing said, draws on another, that a third, and always with increasing acrimony, until all restraint is thrown off, and it becomes difficult for yourselves to keep clear of the toils in which your friends will endeavour to interlace you, and to avoid the participation in their passions which they will endeavour to produce. A candid recollection of what you know of each other will be the true corrective. With respect to myself, I hope they will spare me. My longings for retirement are so strong that I with difficulty encounter the daily drudgeries of my duty. But my wish for retirement itself is no stronger than that of carrying into it the affections of all my friends. I have ever viewed Mr. Madison and yourself as two principal pillars of my happiness. Were either to be withdrawn, I should consider it as among the greatest calamities which could assail my future peace of mind. I have great confidence that the candour and high understanding of both will guard me against this misfortune, the bare possibility of which has so far weighed on my mind that I could not be easy without unburthening it. Accept my respectful salutations for yourself and Mrs. Monroe, and be assured of my constant and sincere friendship. A copy.

(Signed) TH: JEFFERSON.

Richmond, Feb. 27, 1808.

MY DEAR SIR,

My great anxiety to forward to you the account and receipt for the sum which I paid for your mathematical instruments at London, when I should acknowledge your late kind letter, prevented my answering it sooner. To obtain them I was forced to forsake all my papers which required much time, and in truth I did not succeed in finding them till this morning. I have now the pleasure to enclose you those papers.

I can assure you that no occurrences of my whole life, ever gave me so much concern, as some which took place during my absence abroad, proceeding from the present administration. I allude more especially to the mission of Mr. Pinkney, with all the circumstances connected with that measure, and the manner, in which the treaty, which he and I formed, which in fact, was little more than a project, was received. I do not wish to dwell on these subjects. I resolved that they should form no motive of my public, or private conduct, and I proceeded to execute my public duty in the same manner, and to support and advance to the utmost of my power, your personal and political fame, as if they had not occurred. The latter object, has been felt by me through life, directly as a secondary one, for from the high respect which I have entertained for your public services, your talents and virtues, I have seen the national interest, and your advancement and fame, so intimately connected, as to constitute essentially the same cause. Besides I have never forgotten the proofs of kindness and friendship, which I received from you in early life.

When I returned to the United States, I found a heavy censure had fallen on me, in the public opinion, as I had before much reason to believe was the case, in consequence of my having signed the British treaty, and when I returned here from Wash-

ington, I was assured that, that circumstance was wielded against me with great effect, in relation to a particular object—that it was relied on to impeach my character in the most delicate points. Conscious that I had served my country and the administration, in the several trusts confided to me abroad, with the utmost integrity, industry and zeal; that in some cases, I had rendered useful service, that in all, I had done the most that could be done, under existing circumstances; that my private fortune had been essentially injured by those employments, it was impossible for me to be insensible to the effects produced by those attacks. They have injured me and continue to injure me every day in the public estimation. I trust however that means may be found to do me justice, without the slightest injury to you. Be that as it may, you may be assured, that I shall never cease, to take a deep interest in your political fame and personal happiness.

I informed Mr. Madison when I was at Washington, that I should write him a letter, in reply to his of May the 20th, 1807, on the subject of the treaty, to answer some of his objections to it, and place in a just light the conduct of the American commissioners in that transaction. I informed him also, that as I wished to couch that letter in the most amicable terms, if he should find my passage in it, which failed in that respect, I should be happy to alter it, having in view only a fair vindication of my conduct. I have almost concluded the letter, and shall forward it in the course of the next week, the easy part of it, if possible. My private concerns have subjected me to much interruption, or I should have finished it sooner.

In regard to the approaching election, I have been and shall continue to be an inactive spectator of the movement. Should the nation be disposed to call any citizen to that station, it would be his duty to accept.—On that ground I rest. I have done nothing to draw the attention of any one to me in reference to it, nor shall I in future. No one better knows than I do the merit of Mr. Madison, and I can declare that should he be elected, he will have my best wishes, for the success of his administration, as well on account of the real interest which I take in what concerns his welfare, as in that of my country. His success will give me no personal mortification. It will not lessen my friendship for him, which is sincere and strong.

I am, dear sir, yours, &c. &c.

JAMES MONROE.

Washington City, March 10th, 1808.

DEAR SIR,

From your letter of the 27th ult. I perceive that painful impressions have been made on your mind during your late mission, of which I had never entertained a suspicion. I must therefore examine the grounds, because explanations between reasonable men can never but do good. 1st. You consider the mission of Mr. Pinkney as an associate, to have been in some way injurious to you. But I might say in its justification that it has been the regular and habitual practice of the United States to do this under every form in which their government has existed. I need not recapitulate the multiplied instances, because you will readily recollect them. I went as an adjunct to Dr. Franklin and Mr. Adams, yourself as an adjunct, first to Mr. Livingston, and then to Mr. Pinkney, and I really believe there has scarcely been a great occasion which has not produced an extraordinary mission.

2d You complain of the manner in which the treaty was received: but what was that manner? I cannot suppose you to have given a moment's credit to the stuff which was crowded in all sorts of forms into the public papers, or to the thousand speeches they put into my mouth, not a word of which I had ever uttered. I was not insensible at the time of the views to mischief with which these lies were fabricated. But my confidence was firm that neither yourself nor the British government, equally outraged by them, would believe me capable of making the editors of news-papers the confidants of my speeches or opinions. The fact was this.—The treaty was communicated to us by Mr. Erskine on the day Congress was to rise. Two of the senators inquired of me in the evening whether it was my purpose to detain them on account of the treaty. My answer was, "that it was not: that the treaty containing no provision against the impressment of our seamen, and being accompanied by a kind of protestation of the British ministers which would leave that government free to consider it as a treaty or no treaty, according to their own convenience, I should not give them the trouble of deliberating on it." This was substantially and almost verbally what I said whenever spoken to about it, and I never failed, when the occasion would admit of it, to justify yourself and Mr. Pinkney by expressing my conviction that it was all that could be obtained from the British government; that you had told their commissioners that your government could not be pledged to ratify, because it was contra-

ry to their instructions, of course that it should be considered but as a project; and in this light I stated it publicly in my message to congress on the opening of this session. Not a single article of the treaty was ever made known beyond the members of the administration, nor would an article of it be known at this day but for its publication in the news-papers as communicated by somebody from beyond the water as we have always understood. But as to myself I can solemnly protest, as the most sacred of truths, that I never one instant lost sight of your reputation and favourable standing with your country, and never omitted to justify your failure to attain our wish as one which was probably unattainable. Reviewing therefore this whole subject, I cannot doubt you will become sensible that your impressions have been without just ground. I cannot indeed judge what falsehoods may have been written or told you, but if you have been made to believe that I ever did, said, or thought a thing unfriendly to your fame and feelings, you do me injury as causeless as it is afflicting to me. In the present contest in which you are concerned, I feel no passion, I take no part, I express no sentiment.—Which ever of my friends is called to the supreme cares of the nation, I know that they will be wisely and faithfully administered; and as far as my individual conduct can influence, they shall be cordially supported. For myself I have nothing further to ask of the world than to preserve in retirement to much of their esteem as I may have fairly earned, and to be permitted to pass in tranquility, in the bosom of my family and friends, the days which yet remain for me. Having reached the harbour myself, I shall view with anxiety (but certainly not with a wish to be in their place) those who are still buffeting the storm, uncertain of their fate. Your voyage has so far been favourable, and that it may continue with entire prosperity is the sincere prayer of that friendship which I have ever borne you, and of which I now assure you, with the tender of my high respect and affectionate salutations.

A copy.

TH: JEFFERSON.

(To be continued.)

From the (N. Y.) American Citizen.

Extract of a letter from Washington.

"You have been informed that in obedience to orders received from our administration at this place, Mr. Pinkney in a memorial to the British government, proposed on the part of the U. States, that our embargo as it respected England would be repealed, if the orders in council, as far as affected the United States were revoked. To this memorial no written reply has been given, but Mr. Canning, in a conversation with Mr. Pinkney, assured him that the British government did not complain of the embargo laid by the U. States; that it was a business of police, which any independent nation had a right to make; that being general no one nation had a right to complain, and that it could not therefore become the subject of national discussion between the two nations.

"You may be assured that the raising of the embargo will not be recommended, unless it should be deemed necessary to secure the election of Madison to the Presidency."

The following information is written upon a London paper (the Times) of the 24th September:

"LONDON, Saturday, 2 o'clock, afternoon, 24th September, 1808.

"Tis believed that the Portuguese have refused to permit the Convention to be carried into effect.—Accounts from the Baltic are just received by the Gottenburg mail—Sir James Saumarez was bombarding the Russian fortifications, and the Russian fleet had offered to capitulate on certain terms, which were refused.—The bombardment was expected to recommence."

Gen. W. Clarke, as agent for the United States, has lately purchased by treaty, of the Osages, 50,000 square miles of territory, lying between the rivers Arkansas and Missouri. We should be glad to see this land exchanged with the Indians who border on our northern frontier, and who, from their proximity to the English, are at all times liable to be imposed upon, to our detriment. [Expositor.]

A CAT-FISH of an almost incredible size was caught this morning by the United States' soldiers stationed at the magazine, opposite this city; it measured 13½ inches between the eyes, 3 feet 3¼ inches round the back part of the head, and weighed 127 pounds! [New-Orleans paper.]

Yesterday morning the corps of Light Artillery, under the command of Captain George Peter, left this city for Carlisle. It consists of about 90 effective men. The unremitting exertions of that excellent officer have rendered them in point of discipline, not inferior to any troops on the continent. [Balt. Evening Post.]