

consider it proper to propose to you in a written form the questions which I have had the honour of submitting to you in conversation, namely:—  
1st. Were the Berlin and Milan decrees revoked in whole or in part on the 4th day of last November? Or have they at any time posterior to that day been so revoked? Or, have your instructions from your government to give to this government any assurance or explanation in relation to the revocation or modification of these decrees?  
2d. Do the existing decrees of France admit into French ports with or without licenses American vessels laden with the produce of the U. S. and under what regulations and conditions?  
3d. Do they admit into French ports with or without licenses American vessels laden with articles not the produce of the U. S. and under what regulations and conditions?  
4th. Do they permit American vessels with or without licenses to return from France to the U. S. and upon what terms and conditions?  
5th. Is the importation into France of any articles the produce of the U. S. absolutely prohibited? and if so what are the articles so prohibited, and especially, are tobacco and opium?  
6th. Have your instructions from your government to give to this government any assurance or explanation in relation to the American vessels & cargoes seized under the Rambouillet decree?  
I have the honour to be, &c.

R. SMITH.

Mr. Secretary, &c.  
Act. 9. In my letter to Mr. Erving of April 17th, 1809, Mr. Madison proposed, and contrary to my ideas of propriety insisted on its inserting the following paragraph—viz:—  
"But I have, in express charge from the President, to state, that while he forbears to insist on a further punishment of the offending officer, he is not the less sensible of the justice and utility of such an example, nor the less persuaded that it would best comport with what is due from his Britannic Majesty to his own honour."  
To this paragraph I had two objections:—  
1st. It is not reconcilable to that dignified decorum which the comity of governments in their intercourse with each other ought to observe.  
2d. As in a case of individuals, so in a case of nations, wherein a reparation may be tendered for an aggravated insult; the party insulted cannot consistently accept a reparation in satisfaction, and in the same letter insist that such reparation is not as satisfactory as in honour it ought to be. Such an acceptance would necessarily imply, that the punishment of the party insulted, had, from a dread of a conflict, disposed him to yield to what his logic at the same time, told him was not an adequate atonement.

ART. X. By my letter to Governor Claiborne of October 27th, 1810, ordering him to take possession of the part of West Florida claimed by the U. S. he was authorized to call to his aid the regular army and the whole militia force of the neighbouring territories. To this order Mr. Madison annexed, with his own pen, the following restrictive qualification—viz:— "should however, any particular place, however small, remain in possession of a Spanish force, you will not proceed to employ force against it; but you will make immediate report thereof to this department.  
The idea of the whole military force of the U. S. being in full march & suddenly halting at the first appearance of a Spanish bayonet, or of their being restrained from taking possession to the full extent of what Mr. Madison himself considered our legitimate claim, was, to my mind, so humiliating, that I really could not disguise my opinion of the restriction under the mask of official reserve.

ART. XI. In the month of December next, after my accession to the Department of State, I discovered that several American citizens, claimants under the 7th article of the British Treaty, had in vain presented for payment their respective claims. To my surprise, I found that there was not within my control any money for the discharge of these just claims: and with equal surprise, I ascertained at the Treasury, that Mr. Erving, our agent in London, had retained in his hands, as a commission of 2 1/2 per cent. the sum of 22,392 dolls. and that this sum, thus retained, was the very money that had been paid by the British government, in trust, for the identical American citizens, whose claims had thus in vain been presented for payment. Neither in the Department of State, nor in any other Department of the Government was there to be found any record, or indeed, any trace whatever of a letter of any kind authorizing Mr. Erving to retain that sum money. No circumstance in relation to it was within the recollection of any of the clerks. To my predecessor in office I then resorted. From him, however, I could obtain no explanation. I, nevertheless, stated to him, that the claim of Mr. Erving, as it appeared on the books of the Treasury, was utterly inadmissible. 1st. because being an officer with a fixed annual compensation, he could not with propriety receive an extra emolument and especially, for the same services for which the established compensation was allowed. 2d. Because the money, retained by him, was not the property of the U. S. but was merely in the hands of this government, in trust for certain citizens of the U. States, whose claims under the British treaty had been duly sanctioned. Mr. Madison barely remark-

ing that he had no knowledge or recollection, of any of the circumstances of this affair, took occasion abruptly to call my attention to some other subject. Perceiving, as I did, that he was not disposed to give me any instructions in relation to this affair, I informed him that I would lose no time in applying to Mr. Erving for the requisite explanation.— And the following letter was accordingly written and transmitted to him.  
"Department of State, Dec. 19, 1809.

SIR,  
Finding that the sums of money heretofore drawn out of your hands, by authority of this Department, to this country, with a view to the payment of such claims, under awards of the Board of Commissioners acting under the 7th article of the British Treaty, as you had not previously paid in London, are insufficient for that purpose, and that upon inquiry at the Treasury, there is still in your hands the sum of 2038 pounds 7 shillings sterling. I have to request that you will remit the same in some safe and convenient mode to this Department; and, as several claims, which have been presented here must wait the arrival of this money for payment, I have further to request you to hasten this remittance as much as possible.  
"Having learned at the treasury also that you have retained this sum as a commission of 2 1/2 per cent. upon the monies which have passed through your hands, I think it proper to apprise you, that no compensation of that kind can be allowed.  
I have the honour to be, &c. &c.

R. SMITH.  
George W. Erving, Esq. &c.  
Upon the receipt of this letter Mr. Erving, then in Cadix, in his reply, informed me that upon his return to the U. States, he would give me the necessary information.— Upon his arrival at Washington, he accordingly shewed me a letter from Mr. Madison himself, fully and explicitly authorising him to retain the sum of money in question.— Whence then, it will be asked, did it happen, that of this letter there was no record, no trace whatever in the Department of State? It is because it was not an official but a private letter, and of which the original and duplicate were both in Mr. Madison's own hand writing. The following is the copy of this letter:—

(DUPLICATE.)  
"Private. Washington, Nov. 5, 1804.  
"Dear Sir, your several communications relating to the awards, scamen, &c. have been just received and with them your private letter of Sept. 1st. As the subject of this last may render an early answer interesting to you, I hasten to give it. Your observations on the reasonableness of some remuneration for your services have, as you wished, been submitted to the President. The result of his reflections for the present is, that I should suggest that you retain out of the next instalment in its passage through your hands the Barings a per centage of 2 1/2 on the awards actually received and to be received by you, and that you state it as an item in your account with the public. This will bring the equity of your claim regularly before the government, and will leave the way open for the choice of modes and funds as may finally appear most proper.  
With great esteem and regard,  
I am dear sir, your ob. servant,  
JAMES MADISON.  
George Erving, Esq. London."

Expressing to Mr. Madison, my surprise and regret that a money-transaction to so large an amount had been made the subject of a private letter, I remarked to him that he would now have to decide whether Mr. Erving would be allowed to retain this sum of money, and that should he be so allowed, then an application must necessarily be made to Congress for an appropriation of a like sum to enable the State Department to discharge the just demands of the claimants under the Treaty. I moreover, at the same time, stated to Mr. Madison, that the agency of Erving had been from Sept. 1801, to Sept. 1805, and that the private letter of November, 1804, giving to him 22,392 dollars in addition to his annual salary of 2,000 dollars, was, in fact, allowing him a compensation of 7,598 dollars per annum. As, however, it appeared to the President that consistently with this private letter, Mr. Erving could not in candor or in equity be called upon to return to the government his money, I was of course instructed by him to give his claim to the sanction of the State Department, and moreover, to consider and put on file as a public letter, the private letter of Nov. 3, 1804. And an application was afterwards accordingly made to congress for the requisite appropriation.  
The senate having passed a resolution calling upon the President for certain information in relation to the subject, I frankly declared to him, that in case of his application to the state department for a report, every consideration of duty would constrain me to set forth all the circumstances of this transaction. He manifested great perturbation and freely said, that the call of the senate was evidently made with a view to injure him. In con-

nection with this unprecedented observation, I perceived unequivocal indications of dissatisfaction with respect to myself. And well assured as I am, and believing as I sincerely do, that the affair had contributed in a great degree to the rupture that has taken place between Mr. Madison and myself, I cannot but consider it a proper item in the catalogue to be exhibited on this occasion to the view of our fellow citizens. It will suggest to every mind the following questions:—  
1st. As president Jefferson in the year 1801, with a view to save the public money, did, with the approbation of Erving, appoint him agent of the U. States in London, with a fixed salary of 2,000 dollars per year, to perform all the duties which had been previously performed by Mr. Williams, Mr. Cabot, and Mr. Lenox, why did Mr. Madison in 1804, in a private way, counteract this economical policy, by allowing to Mr. Erving a sum of money about the same in amount as the removed officers would have been entitled to claim, had they all remained in office.  
2d. Why did Mr. Madison allow to an officer, having a stated salary, an extra compensation greatly exceeding in amount his fixed salary; and especially as that extra compensation was not for extra services, and merely for the same services for which the stated salary was originally allowed?  
3d. Why was the letter making up unprecedented an allowance, not an official one? And why was there not left in the office some trace of it?  
4th. Why did he depart so much from established usage as to take the liberty of using the name of the president in a letter granting money, when it was intended at the time, not only that the letter was to be a private one, but that no trace of it should be found in the office?  
5th. If, in November, 1804, it had been considered, that Mr. Erving was entitled to the additional compensation of so large a sum as 22,392 dollars for services past, as well as future, why had not the case at or about that time, been preferred to congress, for the requisite appropriation? Why had it been suffered to remain so many years enveloped in secrecy and darkness?  
6th. Why did Mr. Madison authorize Mr. Erving to retain this particular sum of money, as it was not the property of the United States: as it was in fact, in the hands of this government merely in trust for certain citizens of the United States; and, especially as he could not have known that the honest claims of those suffering citizens would, in time, be presented for payment; and that, in that case to satisfy those claims the same amount of money must necessarily be drawn from the Treasury, as was actually done at the last session.

Having given to my fellow-citizens a view of the circumstances under which I have resigned the commission of secretary of state, it may not be amiss to herewith somewhat connected, to give them a short sketch of the circumstances under which that commission had been received.  
During the eight years of Mr. Jefferson's administration, Mr. Madison and I were colleagues in office. There was between us, without intermission, an intimate personal intercourse. For the last four or five years he visited me in my office, almost every day, for the purpose of interchanging ideas upon some affairs of his department. Seldom did he write a paper of any importance, which he did not submit to my consideration before he gave it to its last shape. With a knowledge of me thus acquired, upon his becoming the president of the U. S. he offered to me in the first instance, the office of secretary of the treasury. Some short time after and while I was employed in the necessary preparatory investigations in relation to the details of the treasury department, Mr. Madison again called upon me and requested me to take the station of the department of state. And at the same time, he communicated to me the circumstances that had rendered this change in the administration necessary, which, as they are not at all connected with the design of this address, it would be improper here to recite.  
However unnecessary it may appear to those who know me, I deem it proper on this occasion to declare, that at no time did I, nor, as I am well assured, did any relation or other friend of mine, give or convey directly to Mr. Madison, or indirectly to him through any other person, in any manner or form, the slightest intimation, that I wished to be either secretary of the treasury or secretary of state.  
Many despicable tales, as I have since understood, were last winter covertly conveyed to Mr. Madison by certain abject, designing sycophants, with a view not only to prejudice, but to alarm his mind, and among others, one that the vice-president, gen. Armstrong and myself had been employed in concerting a plan to oppose him at the next presidential election. This paltry story I had considered as utterly unworthy of notice. And perhaps I, at this time, attach to it too much importance in avowing, as I now do, that while I was secretary of state, I never

had in conversation or in writing any communication whatever, directly or indirectly, on any such subject with either the vice-president, or gen. Armstrong, or with either of them through any person whatever. But being at this time a private citizen, I must, as I most sincerely do, that to ensure the reputation of the republican party as well as the preference the honour and the best interests of the U. States, it has become indispensable necessary, that our president be a man of energetic mind, of enlarged and liberal views of temperate and dignified deportment, of honourable and manly feelings, and of eminent in maintaining, as sagacious in determining the rights of our much injured and beleaguered country.

R. SMITH.  
Baltimore, June 7, 1814.  
P. S. It is, I trust, not expected by any person, that I should enumerate the particular nominations to the senate which I have proved. Such an undertaking would, at this time, be as unjustifiable as it would be tedious.

APPENDIX.  
The following letters and extracts are published merely to shew how unavailing are the tales, with respect to Mr. Jefferson, to which certain underlings of Mr. Madison, for the purpose of sustaining his have found it expedient to resort.  
"Monticello, June 10th, 1809.  
"DEAR SIR,  
I enclose you a letter from — one of the members of Pennsylvania, which you will perceive ought to have been addressed to me. I am, however, gratified by his sending it to me, inasmuch as it gives me an opportunity of abstracting myself from natural occupations and of saluting one whom I have been connected in service in society so many years, and to whom I feel and relief on an important portion of his labors I have been so much indebted. It is with sincere affection and gratitude, that I look back with peculiar satisfaction on the harmony and cordial good will, which, together with our brethren of the cabinet, much sweetened our toils. From the charges now associated in the administration, I have no doubt of the continuance of the cordiality so interesting to themselves and the public; and great as are the difficulties and dangers environing our camp, I feel with perfect composure, knowing who is watching for us.  
I pray you to present me respectfully to Mrs. Smith, and to accept my prayers for her health and the public esteem in return for your useful services past and to come.  
TH. JEFFERSON,  
Secretary of State."

Extract of a letter from Mr. Jefferson to R. Smith, dated Monticello, Sept. 1810, enclosing a work in manuscript, intended for publication at some future day.  
"You will see what I have made of (the subject) by the enclosed, which I forward in the hope you will consider and correct it. Will you do me the favour to send on paper such corrections as you would see fit, and forward them to me. I pray you be assured of my confidence and affectionate respect."  
"Monticello, April 30, 1804.  
"DEAR SIR,  
I have learned with sincere concern the circumstances which have taken place at Washington. Their first confirmation was from the National Intelligencer. My hopes and confidence were that your retirement was purely a matter of choice on your part. A letter I have received makes me suppose there was a more serious understanding than I had apprehended. No one feels more painfully than I do the separation of friends, and suffering myself under whatever inflictions sufferance on them, I console myself with them mutually and ask the mutual permission to esteem all, as I ever did; not to know their differences nor ask the cause of them. The harmony which made me happy while at Washington, is as dear to me now as it was then, and I should be equally afflicted were it by any circumstances to be impaired to myself. I have so much confidence in the candour and liberality of both parties to trust that the misunderstanding will not be permitted to lead to any sinister effects, and my constant prayer will be for blessing on you all.  
TH. JEFFERSON.  
Robert Smith, Esq. Baltimore."

Baltimore, May —, 1811.  
"DEAR SIR,  
With great satisfaction I have just received your friendly letter of the 30th of Of the occurrence at Washington I had little suspicion as you had — and, at this moment I know not to what kind of satisfaction to attribute it.  
"From one of your old and unwelcome friends, I some days since received a letter

specifying information, as to the ground thereon for the opinion, that you had been privy to this transaction, stating at the same time, that he could not for a moment allow himself to give any kind of credit to so improbable a tale. I at once assured him, that it was to be referred to the numerous class of fabrications, that so far from entertaining myself with a suspicion, I was confident there was not the slightest ground for the imputation, and in way of illustration, I transmitted to him his individual satisfaction, copies of two letters I had received from you, after my accession to the department of state.  
"I entreat you, Sir, to remain assured, that with sentiments, as grateful as pleasing, I do this time do, and I trust, I ever will retain, just sense of your dignified, liberal, frank deportment towards me on every occasion during your administration, and that however distressed I may be to forgive an enemy, I never abandon a friend.  
I have the honour to be, &c.  
"R. SMITH.  
The Hon. Ths. Jefferson, Monticello."

On Tuesday the 2d inst. Augustus J. BAKER, Esq. was presented by the secretary of state to the president of the U. S. and admitted his credentials as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary from Great Britain to the United States.  
Mr. MORIER was also presented as secretary of legation, and Mr. BAKER attached to the legation.  
[Nat. Intel.]

Obituary.  
DEPARTED this life on Saturday morning the 10th inst. Mrs. MARY MANN, of this city, whose venerable lady supported by that Holy Religion of Jesus, whose paths are happiness and peace; amidst many of the severest trials that infest the serenity of the "pure in spirit," endured with pious composure a long and lingering illness with Christian resignation. Mrs. Mann had for the last eight or ten years a great measure withdrawn herself from the circle and society of her numerous friends and acquaintance, but she did not thereby all forget her justly acquired claim to the equalled esteem, so that we may say in truth, her probations was also ornamented with the cardinal virtues of the Christian. When we reflect that the irreparable loss the friends in general, and a particular one in particular, of this good woman, have sustained in her death, we have reason to believe has gained her a seat where the Christian's trouble ceases, and "the weariness of life" we trust they will not "be forsaken without hope," but devoutly bowing with patience and resignation to the will of God of all things, will religiously say, "Thy will be done O Lord."  
At his Farm, on South River, at an advanced age, Mr. WILLIAM BREWER.

Public Sale.  
By virtue of a decree of the high court chancery, of the state of Maryland, the subscriber having been appointed trustee for the sale of the real estate of Mrs. Glover, late of Anne-Arundel county; he will offer at Public Sale, at Mr. William Brewer's Tavern, in Annapolis, on Saturday, the 27th day of July inst. if fair, if not the first fair day thereafter the following tract of land, called SANDGATE, lying about one mile from the city of Annapolis, containing about 60 acres. This land is capable of being divided into two parcels (should purchaser wish to buy it in that way, or it would be entire) on both of which there are good dwelling-houses, with other convenient houses. A further description of this property deemed unnecessary, as it is supposed the person wishing to purchase will view the premises previous to the day of sale.  
The terms of sale are, that the purchaser shall give bond, with security to be approved by the trustee, for the payment of the purchase money within two months from the day of sale, and upon the receipt of the whole purchase money the trustee will duly convey the same to the purchaser or purchasers.  
JAMES HUNTER, Trustee.  
July 10.

GENUINE DRUGS & MEDICINE  
John Wells,  
DRUGGIST AND APOTHECARY.  
INFORMS his friends, and the Public, that he has on hand an extensive assortment of Drugs and Medicines, Patent Medicines, Perfumery, &c. which he offers at reduced prices. Having seen the article he flatters himself that his quality is equal, if not superior, in quality to any in the state, and he is certain he can sell at least as low, if not lower, than any purchased in Baltimore or elsewhere.  
July 3, 1811. 2