

whole Truth, you will excite an unmanageable Party against Manufacturers. Manufacturers cannot live, much less thrive, without honor, fidelity, punctuality, probity and private faith, a sacred respect to property, and the moral obligation of contracts, virtues and habits which never did and never will generally prevail in any populous nation, without a Government, as well as an intelligent and honest Clergy. The friends of political Liberty, in the late body, must, I trust, very generally understand among us. Though I have read much of the Authors of reputation on the subject, both among the French and English, I pretend not to have digested any thing relative to it, with the precision of a Master. But to me it appears, that the general interests of Agriculture in particular, as well as of the Nation in general, will be promoted by a discreet and judicious encouragement of Manufacturers; and that it is only the Landholder, who can be benefited in the rapid rise of his monopoly, by drawing every laboring hand into the Wilderness to fell trees.

The continual accessions of Foreigners will increase our numbers, so that we know not how to govern them. They will never corrupt our Elections, and tend to enrich the Suffrage to the day, however it may be sufficient, and in that day, and hour it always has been, and I doubt not always will be, given us to provide against its dangers.

Remember me affectionately to all Friends and believe me so.

Faithfully yours,

(Signed) JOHN ADAMS.

Ms. Copy.

Philadelphia, 20th October, 1800.

DEAR SIR,
It was only on yesterday, that I received the letter, you did not honor to write me on the 16th of September. In the friendly and respectful file in which it is written, I pray you to accept of my hearty thanks, and you shall receive in my answer all the satisfaction I am able to give you.

Of the letter, which is published in my name, I have no copy, nor any very particular recollection. In general, I remember, that when Mr. Gose was affiant to the Secretary of the Presidency, he was very altho' in his attention to me, and made many visits at my house, and many invitations to his own, when I was at the seat of government, and wrote me many letters, when I was absent from it. I have also had the idea of writing you a letter, before your embarkation for Europe, pressing a great anxiety, that an interview should take place between you and me, before you should depart; and an opinion that it would be in my power to communicate to you some useful information, relative to the subject of your missions. As I knew of nothing that could make it necessary for you to take a journey to Philadelphia, it is probable I wrote him something like the letter that is published. This however has been a vain idea, since it has not been copied or faithfully printed, tho' I must refer to the original letter, which if it is in my hand writing, will be easily known.

It may not be easy for me to give you a clear idea of the situation I was in, when that letter was written. In order to accomplish this necessary purpose, as well as I can, it must be observed, that in May, 1792, it was my misfortune to be wholly unacquainted with all the gentlemen who bore the name of Pinckney. I had never seen one of them in my life, as I can recollect, and I knew not that there were more than two. When I heard of your appointment, I recollect the conversation with the Marquis de Camille, then Duke of Leeds, and imagined it probable, that his Lordship might have intimated directly or indirectly, to some one near the President, that one of the Mr. Pinckneys would be agreeable as Counsel. I never had any other idea of the subject, tho' that which is very common in Europe, when one government causes intimations to be given to another, that the appointment of a particular gentleman, would be agreeable; and I now fully believe that my objection of even that kind of intimation, was wholly unavailing in reality, though it had then form colour, in appearance.

The other intimation concerning the Pinckney family had no other foundation than this. When I received my commission to the Court of St. James, I asked that it is in limitation to three years. As I did not recollect any example of this before, I was at a loss for the reason of it; but as I did not intend at that time to remain in Europe, even for a few days, and I thought very little of it, until I received of my arrival in London, in 1795, I received information without enquiry, that

Mr. Pinckney, a member of Congress from South Carolina, had said, that the limitation to three years, had been inferred in my commission, for the purpose of getting rid of me; that the million to London was intended as a bribe for me, and that the intimation was, as soon as I could be removed to find a Mr. Pinckney of South Carolina in my room.

When I heard of a Mr. Pinckney's appointment to the London intimation came into my mind and diverted me, because I supposed Mr. Pinckney after 8 years, had carried his point, and occasioned the frustration expressed in the letter, which from the fervor, I fully, carelessly said, in throughout, must be fully perceived to have been confidential.

It may be easily ascertained, who was the member of Congress in 1784 or 1785, when my commission was granted and dated, and when the limitation to three years was inferred.

On this occasion it is but justice and equity in me to declare, that I have not at this time, the smallest reason to believe or suspect, that you or your brother ever fell in with any scheme, under Government, to be set on foot; or at home; that the whole concern I took, as far as it has come to my knowledge, and I have had considerable opportunities to know the conduct of both June 1792, has shown minds candid, able and independent, who see from any line of influence from Britain and from any improper bias in favour of that Country or any other; and that both have rendered, with honor and dignity to themselves, great and important services to our Country. And I will add, in the most positive manner, that I know of no two gentlemen, whose characters and conduct, are more deserving of confidence.

I cannot conclude without observing, that we are fallen on evil times; in evil times indeed, are we fallen; if every private conversation is immediately to be betrayed and misreported in the newspaper, and if every frivolous and confidential letter is to be degraded by the hand of teaching men, in the short of eight years and published by malicious envenoms for the purpose of maligning mischief.

I am, Sir, with great truth and regard, Your friend and humble servant,

(Signed) JOHN ADAMS.

P. S. As your letter, which is now on its way to me, I shall publish this answer immediately, which I hope you will excuse. The Honourable Thomas Pinckney, Esq. Charleston, South Carolina.

Mr. Hamilton's Strictures.

"Occurrences which have either happened or come to light since the election of Mr. Adams to the presidency, concerning his unfortunate forbidding of his character, has often been my decisive energy in my mind, to the faintness of his ministry for the nation.

"The letter which has just appeared in the press, which has been signed by the Vice President, to Teach Court is of itself conclusive evidence of the justness of his sentiment. It is impossible to speak of this transaction in terms suited to its nature, without losing sight of Mr. Adams as President of the United States.

"This letter shows the indignation, that the appointment of Mr. Pinckney, to the Court of London, had been procured or promoted by British Influence. And considering the parade with which the story of the Duke of Leeds is told, it is fair to consider, that circumstance is the principal, if not the sole ground of the odious and degrading suspicion.

"Let any man of candour or knowledge of the world pronounce on this species of evidence."

"But a more serious question remains—How will Mr. Adams answer to the government and to his country, for having thus wantonly given the function of his opinion to the world of the affections which the enemies of the Administration have impudently thrown upon it? Can we be surprised that such a torrent of slander has poured on against it, when a man, the second in official rank, the second in the favor of the friends of the government, flopped to be guilty of the infidelity which is here peculiarly unbecoming for Mr. Adams in this affair, that he is known to have defaced at the time, the appointment which was given to Mr. Pinckney. The President has not only declined the office, showing that it was compatible neither with the spirit of the constitution, nor with the dignity of the government, to designate the Vice-President to such a station.

"This letter, better than volumes, displays the unbecoming character of Mr. Adams." Page 20.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON, of New York, has in his publications a pamphlet replete with unbecoming political matter. Under the character of a vindication of himself, in the vehicle of benevolent criticism of Mr. Adams, whom he declares an unfit for the Presidency. The copy-right is secured, it is only permissible to make extracts from it: these, however, are selected in such a manner as not only to excite but reward curiosity.

"Having been repeatedly informed that Mr. Adams had delineated me as the leader of a British faction, and having understood that his parasites, to counteract the goodness of my name, were preparing to flame charge against me, I wrote him a letter on the subject, dated the first of August last: No reply having been given by him to this letter, I on the first of the present month, wrote him another. Page 15.

"To promote this co-operation, to defend my own character, to vindicate those friends, who with myself have been unjustly and unreasonably charged with the crime of this letter. Accordingly, it will be my endeavor to regulate the communication of it in such a manner as will not be likely to deprive Mr. Adams of a single vote. Indeed, it is much my wish, that its circulation should be confined within narrow limits. I am sensible of the inconveniences of giving publicity to a similar development of the character of the chief magistrate of our country; and I must therefore decline calling a line which will involve that result. To suppose truth, the disclosure of which is injurious to the public welfare, as well as to the vindication of my friends and myself, did not appear to me judicious." p. 21.

COPIES OF LETTERS,

(Above alluded to.)

New-York, August 1, 1800.

"SIR,

"It has been repeatedly mentioned to me, that you have on different occasions, alleged the existence of a British faction in this country, embracing a number of leading or influential characters of the late party, (and sometimes named me) and that you had, sometimes named me, and others, alluded to me as one of this description of persons; and I have likewise been assured that some of your warm adherents, for declaiming purposes, have employed corresponding language. I must first, take it for granted, that you cannot have made such assertions or insinuations, without being willing to avow them; and to assign the reason to a party who may conceive himself injured by them. I therefore first, take it for granted, that you do not deem it improper, that I apply directly to yourself, to ascertain from you, in reference to your own declarations, whether the information I have received had been correct or not; and if correct, what are the grounds upon which you have founded the suggestions?"

With respect,

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your obedient servant,

(Signed) ALEX. HAMILTON.
TO JOHN ADAMS, ESQ.
President of the United States.

No VII.

"New-York, October 1, 1800.

"The time which has elapsed since my letter of the 1st of August was delivered to you, precludes the further communication of answers."

"From this silence I will draw no inference; nor will I presume to judge of the fitness of silence upon such an occasion, on the part of the chief magistrate of a republic to be discharged so many important public trusts."

"But thus much I will affirm, that by whomsoever a charge of the kind mentioned in my former letter, may at any time hereafter be made, the expense of its refutation, it is a base, wicked and cruel calumny; I deliberate even a plausible pretext to excuse the folly, or mask the depravity which must have dictated it."

"With due respect,

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your Obedient Servant

(Signed) "ALEX. HAMILTON,"
TO JOHN ADAMS, ESQ.
President of the United States.

"The circumstances of my late military situation have much led me to wish my personal discomfiture than some other. In re-

ference to them, I shall only say, that a new appointment to the station and rank I held, to the express stipulation of General Washington who he accepted the command of the army; a few days previously intimated to him by his own words, the strong wishes of the President; and that though second in rank, I was not promoted to the first place when it became vacant by the death of the Commander in Chief, or even by his death. I should have no cause to complain, if there had not been an apparent incongruity in the reassignment of the President's; if he had not nominated me first in the list of major generals, and attempted afterwards to place me third in rank."

"On other topics my sentiments are far less neutral. As I have been afflicted from respectable authorities, Mr. Adams has repeatedly indicted himself in violation and infraction of the constitution of every moral principle; as he has stigmatized me as the leader of a British faction; then certainly I have a right to think that I have been most cruelly and wickedly traduced; and I have a right to make a claim to be satisfied in all those who have been factious; and of my public address; to all who are acquainted with my private character; in its various relations, whether such treatment of me by Mr. Adams, is of a nature to excite or to excite the passions, or to excite the indignation of wise and good men; then I fear, as I do to the countenance of such a line, I am, Sir, to declare, that in the cardinal points of public and private rectitude, as well as in the pure and distinguished zeal for the interests of my Country, I think not of a competitor from any man, with any arrogant pretence to superlative and exclusive merit."

"I ought to remember, that the ground which I have taken, is different from that of most of those who are so loudly mentioned in pursuit of the same line. While one object is common, our motives are variously dissimilar. A party well affected to Mr. Adams, have no other wish, than to vindicate his character from the charge of British influence. Another party feeling a diminution of his value in him, still hope that the general honor of his conduct will be effected by him. You go far in their obligations as individuals, and as citizens, to maintain the honor and integrity, and even the safety of certain kind, I should be deficient of candour were I to conceal the conviction, that he does not possess the talents adapted to the administration of our government; and that he is a great and intricate intriguer in his character, which unfit him for the office of chief magistrate." Page 4.

"Being among the profits appointed to dine with the Count De Verennes, minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Adams thought fit to give me the opportunity of dining with him, by conducting Madam Verennes to dinner; in the way this was pleased to make retribution in the current coin of French politeness, by saying to him, 'a Monsieur de Verennes, I have the honor to be acquainted with you, and to be acquainted with you.' Stating this incident (Mr. Adams in his journal) makes this comment upon it—'These people have a very pretty kind of paying compliments.' He might have added, they have also a very despicable knack at digressing a farce.'" Page 5.

* Mr. Adams, you are the Washington of resignation.

"It was agreed that a few letters should be delivered from Mr. Adams to other persons, so as to ensure to General Washington a paralysis. Great was my astonishment, and equally great my regret, when after having been informed of the possession of unqualified veracity, that Mr. Adams had complained of unfair treatment, he not having been permitted to take an office of change with general Washington, by having the votes to be an unqualified current." Page 9.

"The outset (of Mr. Adams's administration) was distinguished by a first which his friends lamented as temporary, and which had the air of a lure for the favor of his opponents; I heard from a person of unqualified veracity, that Mr. Adams had complained of unfair treatment, he not having been permitted to take an office of change with general Washington, by having the votes to be an unqualified current." Page 9.

"The friends of the government were not agreed as to the manner in which some were to be immediately and unqualifiedly others for a more moderate course; the dissimulation, treachery, pervasiveness of force and gross-spirited prohibitions of a defensive tendency, leading to France the means of checking our commerce, and proceeding to open war." p. 22.