

**Andrew Jackson to Francis Preston Blair, July 19, 1838,
from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by
John Spencer Bassett.**

TO FRANCIS P. BLAIR.

Hermitage, July 19, 1838.

My dear sir, Your very kind letter of the 7th instant is this moment recd. and altho feeble, (from a late sudden attack, which threatened another Hemmorrhage and which was only prevented by the application of the lancet and Cathartics) I cannot forego, the attempt to acknowledge it.

Surely for reckless depravity, of the conduct of Mr. Adams which you relate, in wickedness, has never been surpassed by any thing recorded in history. Mr. Adams having afforded evidence, that if not a principle in the theft committed, at least that he is an accessory after the fact by being in possession of the stolen property knowing from the letter being marked strictly confidential, that it must have been stolen. I mean to make him responsible as accessory to the theft after the fact at least, and make him give up the theaf or hold him responsible as the Burglar.

I shall in due time, as soon as I see the published proceeding address Mr. Adams upon this subject, and if I mistake not, will place him in a more odious aspect before the public than any other man who has been elevated by the people to the high stations in which he has been placed. Humanity and charity toward him, would say, that he must be demented, if not, that he is the most reckless and depraved man living—he must surely have acted the hypocrite all his life, when he would on such grounds as he has inferred, that I have so acted, by writing a letter and never sending it, but his wicked intentions is displayed in

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this, that when he got the letter marked *strictly confidential* , and addressed to Mr. Fulton who was then in the Senate, how can he excuse himself for the slander, when by applying them to Governor Fulton, he would have been advised, that the letter had been sent, recd. by him, and duly attended to and his report forward[ed] to me, and I have no doubt but the thief who purloined the letter took the report with it, but as I have now found where part of the stolen goods are, and more are missing I shall make Mr Adams accountable for them, and shew how he came by them, or I will hold him responsible as the Burglar. But more of this hereafter, should a kind providence restore me to as much health and strength as will enable me to attend to it.

I am happy to be informed by you, that the administration on the whole has lost no ground this session of congress. Be assured that the people will never rest until the government is seperated from the Banks and the revenue is received and disbursed in coin. A special deposit with Banks will not do—the management in the House of Representatives, in not pushing the subtreasury earlier, was a bad one, it ought to have been fully discussed there. if it had, I have no doubt but it would have passed, but providence directs all things well, and unless our republican form of government is doomed by him to short duration, he in his wise providence will bring about a seperation of the Govt. from all Banks, or our republican system will soon be swallowed up in corruption and consolidation *mark this*

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