

Andrew Jackson to James Craine Bronaugh, May 29, 1822, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO DR. JAMES C. BRONAUGH.

Hermitage, May 29, 1822.

D'r Doctor. Last night I recd. by mail a letter from Mr. H. Niles¹ of Baltimore, with one to you inclosed, with a request I should forward it to

¹ Hezekiah Niles, editor of *The Weekly Register*. June 1 Jackson wrote again to Dr. Bronaugh, saying that in writing his first letter he had forgotten that Edward Rutledge aspired to the position desired by Samuel Niles, and that he withdrew his support of Niles in favor of Rutledge. He said quite characteristically: "When benefits are to be bestowed my friends are seldom out of my view, and as I never forsake an old friend, for a new, or abandon a well tried faithfull servant for one untried, I hasten to write you, and my friend Overton to whom I wrote on the subject of Mr. Niles that the Justice which I think due to Mr. Rutledge may be extended and, my letter in favor of Mr. Niles, withdrawn."

you wherever you might be. Mr. Niles has a great wish to obtain for his son, Samuel Niles, the appointment of Secratary to the board of commissioners for the decision of land claims in florida, and requests my aid in obtaining it for him. I have wrote Mr. Overton on this subject. I have no acquaintance with Genl Preston, or Mr. Ware, and have to request that you will lend your aid, (if not committed in behalf of any other) in behalf of young Mr. Niles with them, as I believe the welfare of our country in a great measure depends on athwarting the views of those, who wish to bring W. H. C into the Presidential chair, and if young Mr. Niles is appointed Secratary he will have it in his power to become acquainted with the real charector and standing of Wm. H. C. and communicate it to his father, who

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I believe is an independant, virtuous Editor, and who I believe will support no man for office, and particularly the Presidential, unless he believes them honest and virtuous, and this he cannot do, if acquainted with the real charector of Mr. C. and on his son he will confidentially rely.

at the request of Mr. Niles I enclose to you his letter, enclosed to me.

I have Just received the proceedings of the senate, the injunction of secrecy having been taken of. Gadsden, and Towson, are both again rejected—Fenwick etc. etc. I do not find that the senate have acted upon them. The offices of course remain vacant untill next meeting of the senate. Gadsden is gone to Charleston, I suppose second to Mr. McDuffie.² I hope I shall see him here this summer. The report of the military committee, is very severe, and places the board of Genl officers, in a very aukward situation. In short I cannot foresee, how the President permitted himself to be lead astray by this board, or why he had not made a transfer of Colo. Gadsden from the Inspectors office to that of the adjutant Genl. This he had a right to do, altho he had no right to make new appointments.

² George McDuffie, M. C. from South Carolina, fought a duel with Col. William Cumming.

I can see the hand of Crawford in this report, the whole is intended to effect Calhouns popularity. I hope he may be disappointed, and all his parasites, and satellites. I see in the papers, announced, strictures, on the military report of the senate, I have not seen them, but am anxious to see them—make my compliments to Call and Easter, to Shannon Walton and Miller etc. etc. etc., and all my military friends and believe me yours.