

**Andrew Jackson to John Christmas McLemore,
November 24, 1829, from Correspondence of Andrew
Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.**

TO JOHN C. McLEMORE.1

1 N. Y. Hist. Soc.

Washington, November 24, 1829.

My Dear Sir: By this days mail you will receive the papers which I long since promised to send you relating to the cruel persecution of Mrs. T. now Mrs. Eaton and the Major. These are but a part, and if you can rise from Perusing them without the greatest horror and disgust for a Clergyman, who professes to be the ambassador of christ, but who, has, under the hypocritical cloak of religion become the secrete slanderer of his neighbour, I can only say I will be much Surprised.

You will discover, that every rumor has been traced, and to this day there has not been one individual who has said the[y] knew of their own knowled[ge] one fact that could tarnish her virtue, and as for myself I have no doubt but the clergyman raised the villanous falshood about the abortion himself, no one else ever heard such tale from the lips of Doctor Craven, and the Revd. Mr. Campbell I know will lie, and when you read Genl. Duff Greens letter in reply to the Doctor, you will see there that he will not only lie, but state falshoods for the basest purpose. I will add, the letter to Genl Green was to screen himself and his high chivalrick friend from a dilemma into which they were placed with Major Eaton, from which this hero of the Revd. preacher, never will be able to extricate himself. Major Eaton in this instance has taken a stand worthy of himself, and will relieve him at

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least from the secrete slanders of Gentlemen worthy of his notice, as it is now understood, that they must account.

I wish you to let Judge Overton see them, Mr. Charles J. Love and the family, Mr. Barryhill and his, as from some whispers here, it may be, that as Miss *Harriet* only mixed with those who had been, and still are inimical to Major Eaton and his lady, and was in the midst of some of those who originated the slanders, and who, are interested in still having them believed, for their own credits sake, may have given false impressions, and indeed it might be well that Mr. H. Hall should also see them.

You will find that the first letter from My friend Dr. Ely is private and confidential, this letter is only to be shewn to those who will view it as such. the others are not confidential, may be shewn to any one, but is not intended for the press, as a time will come, but that is not yet, when these things will, as a part of the history of the times, be placed before the nation.

This persecution was founded in political views, looking to the future. Jelousy arose that Eaton might not be a willing instrument to those particular views, that his popularity was growing and it was necessary to put him out of the Cabinet and destroy him regardless what injury it might do me or my administration. But I thank my god, that truth is mighty and will prevail and it has recoiled upon the heads of the wicked engaged in it. the recoil is great, in New York the other day Mrs. Eaton was toasted at a public table at a dining given by the Mayor to Major Barry at which Mr. James Brown and Mr. James Barbour with many others were present. from this you may infer that the attempt here to put them down, has failed.

Present me to Betsy and your amiable little family, let me hear how my son is coming on and believe me yr. friend