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THE CORRESPONDENCE.

Editor of the U. S. Telegraph. General Green: I herewith enclose a copy of my letter to Mr. Hamilton, which has been made necessary by publication of Mr. Forsyth's letter.

My letter to Gen. Jackson of the May 1830, published in the correspondence, speaking of the plot to destroy my political standing, I stated, at several indications forewarned long since, that a blow was meditated against me; I will not say from quarter from which this comes; in relation to this subject, more than two years since, I had a correspondence with the (present) district attorney for the southern district of New York, on the subject of the proceedings before the cabinet in the Seminole war, though it did not then excite particular attention, has since, in connexion with other circumstances, served to draw my eye to what was going on. Under this impression, I stood prepared to render every aid in my power to secure its success. This strong feeling was seized on to extract from me, if possible, some hasty and unguarded expression respecting the course of the cabinet on the Seminole question, by which I might be entangled. Mr. Hamilton, while here, requested to have some conversation with me, which on my part was carried on with the freedom that is usual between those engaged on the same side in a warm political contest. I viewed him in no other light than that of a warm supporter of General Jackson. In connexion with some remark of his, that there was a rumor of an attack on Gen. Jackson for his conduct in the Seminole war, he inquired if any motion had been made in the cabinet to arrest him. To which I replied in the negative. It may be proper to remark here, that no such motion or any other was made. The discussion in reference to the course that might be pursued towards him took place on a suggestion of the propriety of an inquiry into his conduct, and my answer was therefore in strict conformity to the facts. I accompanied the answer with some general remarks on the proceedings of the cabinet, such as I might with propriety make without any breach of confidence. I however feel the most perfect confidence, that I did not use the expression, that "the only point before the cabinet was the answer to be given to the Spanish Government, as Mr. Hamilton states that he understood me in his letter of the 25th of February. I neither did nor could use the expression "only," as it would have been both inconsistent with facts and absurd, as the publications on the Seminole affair clearly indicate that other points were considered by the cabinet. If the statement be an error on the part of Mr. Hamilton, it probably originated in my using the word "main point, or great point, or some other expression of similar import, instead of the expression he imputes to me. The whole conversation was of a general character, such as might with propriety be held respecting the cabinet proceedings—and was by me considered in no way confidential, except the confidence, that exists between gentlemen, that my name was not to be used before the public in connexion with anything I said. I certainly did not suppose that my conduct, or that of any other individual, was put at issue, and could have had no intention of making an erroneous impression as to the proceedings of the cabinet, nor the part I took. I suspected no sinister object. On his return to New York, I received a letter from him dated the 25th of February, the object of which was, apparently, to know if he understood my conversation correctly. He stated that his object in being thus particular in endeavoring to ascertain from me whether his recollection was faithful or not with regard to the conversation, was because he wished to fulfil the object of his enquiry by confirming Major Lewis, a confidential friend of Gen. Jackson in the truth, not with a view to make the publication then, but to be prepared against an apprehended attack, founded on events connected with the Seminole campaign. This disclosure, particularly that Major Lewis as a confidential friend of General Jackson, excited my suspicion. Circumstances, however, gave my eye a wrong direction, not towards myself, but Mr. Monroe. What they were, it becomes necessary to state with the view of understanding the correspondence which followed with Mr. Hamilton.

When Mr. Monroe received the letter of Gen. Jackson of the 19th of August, 1818, in answer to his of the 19th of September of the same year, both of which are published with my correspondence with General Jackson, he was at his farm in Albemarle. General Jackson, in his letter, objected to the construction which had been placed on his orders. Mr. Monroe addressed me a private letter of the 9th September, 1818, a copy of which is hereto annexed, marked A, stating the view which the General took of his orders, the tone of his letter, and with some other circumstances, his (Mr. Monroe's) reasons for thinking that there ought to be an official correspondence between the General and myself, so that the views which we respectively took of his orders might appear on record. This letter passed out of my possession into that of Gen. Jackson without my consent; but at what time or by what means, or through whose agency, I am to this day uninformed. In December 1827, I accidentally heard from a gentleman of this city, in a conversation turning on the subject of the feelings of Mr. Monroe towards Gen. Jackson, (which I stated I knew to be friendly) that there was a letter of the former in the hands of the latter, which afforded conclusive proof of his hostility to the General. Having found some time before, that the letter of Mr. Monroe to me of the 9th of September a copy of which is hereto annexed, was missing, I ascertained the fact by an examination of the letter to me, that it was missing, on a hint from a friend that there was a letter written by Mr. Monroe, as it was supposed, to me, which was out of my possession, and was intended to be used for political purposes. My friend could not inform me in whose possession the letter was. On hearing that there was a letter of Mr. Monroe's in General Jackson's possession, I concluded it must be the same, though I was utterly at a loss to conjecture how it had passed into his hands, or how he could conceive that it indicated unfriendly feelings to him on the part of the writer. I communicated what I had heard to the two Senators, at that time from Tennessee, Judge White and Major Eaton, and my belief that the letter in the possession of the General was Mr. Monroe's to me, and stated, if it was, it would be in my power to shew that the letter, so far from being hostile, was directly of an opposite character. They wrote to the General to ascertain if it was the one supposed; and I addressed a note to Mr. Monroe to apprise him of what I had heard, and to request him to send me a copy of his private correspondence with General Jackson, (the one published with the correspondence between General Jackson and myself,) to be placed in the hands of the two Senators, as explanatory of the letter in question, should it prove to be the one supposed. I have not been able to lay my hand on my note to Mr. Monroe, nor am I certain that I detained a copy, but I hereto annex an extract from Mr. Monroe's answer of the 25th December, 1827, marked B. It was in this stage of this affair, that I received Mr. Hamilton's letter of the 25th of February, and very naturally suspected that his inquiry might have reference to something connected with the same, and in my answer to it necessarily bore it in mind. I could not answer his question whether his understanding of my conversation was correct or not, without going into explanations which would lead to details that I did not feel myself at liberty to state; and which, if I had, I could not prudently, not knowing the bearing that it might have in relation to the affair above referred to. I accordingly waived an answer, but in such terms as were intended to convey the idea that his understanding of my conversation was not correct. Believing that an operation was carrying on against Mr. Monroe, at Nashville, as well from the fact of the letter being placed in Gen. Jackson's hands, as other circumstances which about this time came to my knowledge, and suspecting that the object was to bring Mr. Monroe and Gen. Jackson into conflict for purposes bearing on the pending election; but not knowing in what quarter it originated, I was at a loss to understand how it was to be effected; yet I could not doubt that the apprehended attack on Gen. Jackson, was some how or other connected with this base object. These impressions will explain the character of my correspondence with Mr. Hamilton, a copy of which is hereto annexed, and marked C. The letter of Mr. Forsyth to Mr. Hamilton places this correspondence, and the conversation that preceded it, in a very different light from the one in which I then viewed it. It is impossible now to doubt that his correspondence with Mr. Forsyth and his conversation and correspondence with me, formed parts of the same transaction. Mr. Hamilton proceeded from Savannah directly to this place, where he probably received the answer of Mr. Forsyth, dated at Milledgeville, on the 8th February, to his letter dated the 25th of January preceding. The very question which he put to me, as I must now say, so insidiously, whether there

was a motion to arrest General Jackson, is explained by a reference to the letter of Mr. Forsyth, in which the motion to arrest makes a prominent part of what he represents as the statement of Mr. Crawford of what occurred in the cabinet on the Seminole war. Mr. Crawford has since, however, stated in his letter to Mr. Forsyth, and the one to me, that the statement of Mr. Forsyth was erroneous on this point. Viewing then this whole affair as one transaction, (it can be viewed in no other light,) what a spectacle is presented! I am approached as a zealous friend of General Jackson by one, who, from his political relations with me at the time, I had a right to consider as friendly, for the purpose of extracting from me, under the pretext of defending General Jackson, some unguarded expression, which, at a future period, after he might be raised in part by my exertion, to the highest office in the government, the power which I had thus contributed to confer, might be used to destroy forever the character and standing I had acquired by long, laborious, and faithful services to the country, and which was the only fund I had acquired in that service to bequeath as a legacy to my children. In order that the whole of this iniquitous transaction may be presented in one view, I annex a copy of the letter from Mr. Forsyth to Mr. Hamilton, of the 8th February. I cannot but regret, that Mr. Forsyth has thought proper to withhold from the public the letter of Mr. Hamilton, of the 25th of January, in which this is an answer. It is rare, that an answer can be fully understood, without the letter to which it is a reply, and I do feel that justice to myself as well as to the country, and I will add to Mr. Forsyth himself, requires its publication. In making these remarks, I am not unmindful of the hope, which he expresses, that his name may not be introduced in the further discussion of this subject. I feel every disposition to comply with his desire, and judging from my own feelings, I can well appreciate the pain which he must feel in being involved in the controversy; but he must pardon me for thinking that the claims of justice are paramount to those of delicacy, and that in insisting upon the performance of an act, on his part, which justice to me requires, I am not regardless of his sensibility. In coming before the public he has voluntarily put himself in a position which gives me the right to make the request. I would at so suggest, that this is not the only letter in his possession, connected with this correspondence, necessary to the full elucidation of this affair. His letter to Mr. Crawford, to which Mr. Crawford's letter, placed in the hands of General Jackson, was a reply, has not yet been put in the possession of the public. Until it be, the impression must necessarily remain that the evidence is not complete. Whether the letter of Mr. Monroe, of the 9th of September, which was purloined from me, and passed into the hands of General Jackson, as has been stated, was intended as one of the means of placing us in our present relations, or was intended to excite hostility between him and Mr. Monroe, I am now unable to say. At first I supposed the latter, but subsequent events leave it doubtful. The letter was finally returned to me by General Jackson, but without explanation of the manner in which it came to his hands. Having so long remained in the possession of the General, and been the subject of a correspondence, I might have adduced it in my correspondence with him, as conclusive proof that he ought to have known that my construction of his orders in the Seminole war, coincided with Mr. Monroe's, and consequently differed from his own. I was restrained, however, from doing so, by considerations which may be easily conceived, but as the letter is necessarily connected with the immediate subject of this statement, I am now obliged to present it to the public as a part of my vindication. I do not deem it necessary to make any remarks on Mr. Crawford's letter to me, published by Mr. Forsyth, as his friend. The argument of Mr. Crawford, in support of his statement of the proceedings of the cabinet, rested almost exclusively on the statements of Mr. Crownshield and Mr. Adams. A subsequent acknowledgment of the former that he was not present at the deliberation of the cabinet, and, consequently, that his statement to Mr. Crawford is unfounded, and the fact, disclosed by the letter of Mr. Adams to me published with the correspondence that Mr. Crawford has given in his letter a grabbed extract of Mr. Adams' statement to him, omitting the material point, removed the foundation of his argument, and with it the superstructure, which he raised, fell to the ground. With a knowledge of these facts, it is difficult to conceive why Mr. Crawford's letter should be presented to the public, and still more so as it appears to reconcile its publication with justice without an acknowledgment of uncontroverted errors. I will conclude this statement by a single remark in relation to myself. As unpleasant as I find my present situation, I experience one consolation without which it would be quite intolerable. I have been placed in it by no fault of my own. Little did I suspect, more than 12 years ago, when during that sacred instrument, which I myself had drawn, and to which I could give no other construction than what I did, consistently with the constitution, acting as I was, under the obligation of an oath to abstain from the infraction of that sacred instrument; and in rendering that sacred instrument, which I honestly supposed ought to be adopted on their infraction, I should be exposed at this late day, to so much difficulty and danger. Yet this is my only of fence.

Copy of a letter from Mr. Monroe to Mr. Calhoun. Myland, Sept. 9, 1818. DEAR SIR: I have General Jackson's reply to my letter of July 19, from Washington respecting his taking possession of St. Marks and Pensacola. He contends strenuously, that his orders left him free to adopt that course, if he found it necessary to terminate the Seminole war; that orders to General Gaines, an inferior officer, not referred to in the orders to him, of subsequent date, were inapplicable, and not obligatory on him, especially as his enlarged the sphere of his duties. His letter is on the whole conciliatory and friendly. He promises to write another. Our view of his powers is decidedly different from his, on which too we acted without entertaining a suspicion that he would misunderstand it. I am inclined to think that I had better answer this letter immediately. He may expect that his conception of his orders should appear by document in the department; and it seems to be proper that the sense in which they were given, and understood by the department, after what has passed should be recorded there. A communication between you, on this head, and in this stage seems to be the more necessary from the presumption that it may be my duty to state to Congress that he transgressed his orders on his own responsibility; or at least to state the sense in which they were understood by us. At present nothing to this effect exists in your correspondence with him. It is in mine only, which is private. A communication on this point may commence either with you or him. I will suggest it to him, thinking, as I do, that it had better begin with him. The affair may, I hope, be terminated to the satisfaction of all parties. I will send you in a few days his letter, (with a former one) with the answer, which I propose giving to it; which, if you see no objection to it, be so good as to forward to him. But if you do, return it with your objections to it. By coming from him, it will put you more at ease in your answer, and afford a better opportunity for the exercise of kindness and liberality. I shall attach no particular importance to the affair, in my letter, leaving the argument to you and him, so far as it becomes necessary to enter into it.

Letter from Mr. Monroe to Mr. Calhoun. Oak Hill, Dec. 28, 1827. DEAR SIR: In my compliance with your request in the letter of the 22d, I now send you all the documents referred to in it, which you will find to correspond with the name enclosed. It would be very gratifying to me to know by whom, and from what quarters this attack on me has been meditated. I am far from wishing you to communicate to me any thing which you may not feel yourself at perfect liberty to communicate by the strictest rules of delicacy; but the hostility towards me is so marked and unjustifiable, that it may be useful to me to know in what quarter it exists. I have been much annoyed in this way ever since my retirement; which is the more extraordinary because I am satisfied that I have given no just cause for it to any one.

Copy of a letter from Mr. Hamilton, relating to the deliberations of the cabinet on the Seminole question. New York, February, 25, 1828. DEAR SIR: To avoid mistake as to what passed between us at the conversation I had the honor to hold with you the evening before I left Washington, I submit to you the following, as the import of that part which, it was understood, was not to be considered as confidential. In reply to my inquiry whether at any meeting of Mr. Monroe's cabinet, the propriety of arresting Gen. Jackson, for any thing done by him during the Seminole war, had been at any time discussed? You answered: "Such a measure was not thought of—much less discussed. The only point before the cabinet was the answer to be given to the Spanish Government." I am thus particular, in endeavoring to ascertain from you whether my recollection is faithful or not in regard to this part of our conversation, because I wish to fulfill the object of my inquiry by confirming Major Lewis, a confidential friend of Gen. Jackson, at Nashville, in the truth; not with a view to his making a publication on the subject at present, but to be prepared against an apprehended attack, founded on events connected with that campaign. Mr. Calhoun to Mr. Hamilton. Washington, March 2, 1831. DEAR SIR: I received three days since your letter of the 25th of February, and have heized the first leisure moment to answer it. In the conversation, to which your letter alludes, I supposed, as you did not state the object, that your inquiry, as to what had passed on a particular point in the cabinet deliberation on the Seminole question, was to obtain information in order to meet more general rumor, falsely put out to influence the result of the Presidential election. My answer was accordingly predicated on such supposition, and was intended to meet assertions unsupported by the authority of any name in the same general manner without a name; and was intended to be limited even with that view to the denial of what was falsely stated to have occurred. I now learn that your object is more specific. You state that you desire the information "because I wish to fulfill the object of my inquiry by confirming Major Lewis, a confidential friend of General Jackson at Nashville, in the truth; not with the view of his making a publication on the subject at present, but to be prepared against an apprehended attack founded on events connected with that campaign." I have, under this aspect of the subject, deliberately considered how far I could, with propriety, speak of the proceedings of the cabinet at all, which has resulted in the conviction that a duty of a very high and delicate character imposes on me silence. No relation can be more confidential than that between the President and members of the cabinet as his constitutional advisers. Charged as he is with the executive duties of the Government, which were vested in a single person to give energy and promptitude in execution, it is manifest that to divulge the cabinet deliberations by any of its members would introduce distrust and discord, and thereby tend to defeat, in this important particular, the object of the constitution. Nor on a point so delicate, can a member of the cabinet, in my opinion, be justified by reference to the imprudence of the object intended to be effected by a disclosure of its proceedings. Deeply as any man of correct feelings must reprobate the foul attacks on General Jackson, and as important as every patriot must consider the defence of his character against such attacks in this great political struggle, involving, as I sincerely believe, the liberties of the country; yet I cannot reconcile it to my sense of duty, even for such an object, to do an act tending in any degree to weaken, by its example, the confidence which ought to exist between the Chief Magistrate and his constitutional advisers; and I am greatly mistaken if General Jackson would not be the last man to consent to be so defended. It is, however, a satisfaction, in pursuing the course that duty impels me to do, to reflect that the information, as I conceive, will never be needed for his defence. I cannot believe that an attack so unfounded will ever be made;—not but that his enemies atrocious enough to revert to the most diabolical falsehoods in order to wound his reputation; but it is manifest that an attack of the kind supposed cannot be made with the slightest prospect of success without the concurrence of some one of the members of Mr. Monroe's cabinet at the time; and I cannot admit the possibility that any one can be so lost to honor and duty as to be the agent or instrument in such an attack. But, if what seems to me impossible should prove otherwise, by there being found one base enough to lend himself to such a purpose, then would it become a question worthy of grave consideration on the part of the other members to determine whether, under all the circumstances of the case, duty would not impose any obligation, in order to counteract the injurious effect of a false, a partial, statement of the cabinet proceedings, to demand of the then Chief Magistrate a release of the Chief Magistrate himself would not be bound to disclose what was necessary to the vindication of the character of General Jackson assailed in the manner supposed. Should such a case occur, though to me apparently impossible, I may, with confidence, appeal to the past to prove that I would not be wanting in zeal to go as far as duty would admit in defending the character of General Jackson, and in maintaining in his person the great cause of liberty and the constitution. Entertaining these views, you will see that I decline the introduction of my name, in any shape, as connected with what passed in the cabinet on the occasion to which you refer. What I stated in conversation was negative in its character, and intended, as above stated, to enable you to meet by a general contradiction, without the introduction of my name, what I supposed existed only in the shape of rumor and I must request you to consider it as limited to that purpose only. Mr. Hamilton to Mr. Calhoun. New York, March 10, 1831. DEAR SIR: I have received your letter of the 2d instant. Your request [See 4d page]