

Maj. Eaton has, in his late address, gratuitously dragged his name into his controversy with a part of his associates in the late administration. The station, which he recently occupied, and the relation, in which he is well known to stand to the head of the Executive branch of the government, are calculated to give more weight to his representations, at least with many, than what belongs to the anonymous communications of the day; yet I would not have deemed his statement worthy of my notice had he confined himself to the vague insinuations, which constitute the great body of his address, as far as it relates to me. To give colour to his general charges, he has ventured in a few instances to descend into detail, and to give statements of facts, but in a manner wholly erroneous; which however, might be received by the public as true, were I to remain silent. They have, in fact, been already so received in some respectable quarters. I am thus compelled in self defence to correct the errors of his statements, as far as they concern me. The occurrences, which are the subject of his address, are of a character to render me solicitous, that the part I took in relation to them, should be presented in the light, which truth and justice require. The memory of them will probably out live the present day, and a decent regard for the opinions of those, who are to succeed me, naturally makes me desirous, that I should not seem to have any other connection with events, little calculated to do credit to the history of the day, than what I in reality had.

It is impossible to deny, that the main aim of Maj. Eaton's address is to hold me up as the real author of all the discord, which is alleged to have prevailed in the late cabinet, and to which he endeavours to trace its dissolution, and which he would have the public believe, originated in a low and miserable squabble on my part, in relation to the succession to the Presidential chair.

With this view, and in order to give a political aspect to the refusal of Mrs. Calhoun to visit Mrs. Eaton, he states, that she and myself called in the first instance on him and Mrs. Eaton during their absence at Philadelphia, intending to be informed, in their declining intercourse afterwards, we were actuated by political motives, and not by considerations, connected with duty. Unfortunately for Maj. Eaton his statement is not correct. Mrs. Calhoun never called on Mrs. Eaton at the time he states, nor at any other time before, or since, nor did she ever leave her card for her, nor authorize any one to do so; and she is entirely ignorant through what channel, or by what agency her card could come into his and Mrs. Eaton's possession, in which, I add, that it was not done through my agency, or with my consent, or knowledge. If Maj. Eaton had reflected he would have seen, that there must have been, to say the least, an imposition somewhere. He states, that our visit took place, while they were in Philadelphia, and of course, preceded their return, which is a representation, which he must have known, according to the usage, that governs intercourse at the place, could not occur. The Secretaries and their families invariably make the first call on the Vice-President and his family; and in conformity with this rule, Maj. Eaton had called on me, on my arrival at Washington—before his marriage, which I afterwards returned, and not bidding him at home, left my card. This was probably, while he was absent at Philadelphia, and was the only intercourse I had with, as far as I can recollect, during the whole session, except what took place in the Senate chamber, or when we casually met at parties.

This is not the first time, that Mrs. Calhoun has contradicted the statement, that she had visited Mrs. Eaton. It was reported at the time, that she had visited Mrs. Eaton, and that her card had been left. She then, on all suitable occasions, contradicted it, as directly and pointedly, as she now does, and in particular to two respectable ladies from Tennessee, (wives of members) who then resided in an adjoining boarding house.

The erroneous statement of Maj. Eaton, compels me to give a correct version of what actually occurred; but which I never intended to intrude on the public, and now state with great reluctance, even in self defence. When he and Mrs. Eaton made their visit, I was not at home, as he states, and did not return till after they had retired. When I returned, Mrs. Calhoun mentioned, they had been there, and said she would not have known, who Mrs. Eaton was, had she not been with Mr. Eaton; as the servant had not announced their names. She of course treated them with civility. She could not with propriety do otherwise. The relation, which Mrs. Eaton bore to the society of Washington became the subject of some general remarks. The next morning she informed me, that she had made up her mind not to return her visit. She said, that she considered herself in the light of a stranger in the place; that she knew nothing of Mrs. Eaton, or the truth, or falsehood of the imputation on her character;

and that she considered it to be the duty of Mrs. Eaton, if innocent, to open her intercourse with the ladies who resided in the place, and who had the best means of forming a correct opinion of her conduct, and not with those who, like herself, had no means of forming a correct judgment. I replied, that I approved of her decision, though I foresaw the difficulties in which it would probably involve me; but that I viewed the question involved, as paramount to all political considerations, and was prepared to meet the consequences, as to myself, be they what they might.

So far from political motives having any influence in the course adopted, could they have been permitted to have any weight in the question, the very reverse course would have been pursued. The road to favor and patronage lay directly before me, could I have been base enough to tread it.—The intimate relation between Gen. Jackson and Maj. Eaton was well known, as well as the interest that the former took in Mrs. Eaton's case; but, as degraded as I would have felt myself, had I sought power in that direction, I would not have considered the infamy less had we adopted the course, we did, from any other motive, than a high and sacred regard to duty. It was not, in fact, a question of the exclusion of one already admitted into society, but the admission of one already excluded. Before her marriage, while she was Mrs. Timberlake, she had not been admitted into the society of Washington; and the real question was, whether her marriage with Maj. Eaton, should open the door already closed on her; or in other words, whether official rank and patronage should, or should not, prove paramount to that censorship, which the sex exercises over itself; and, on which, all must acknowledge, the purity and dignity of the female character mainly depend. Had the case been different; had a scheme been formed to exclude Mrs. Eaton, with political views, as is insinuated, the folly would have been equalled only by its profligacy. Happily for our country, this important censorship is too high and too pure to be influenced by any political considerations whatever. It is equally beyond the scope of power, or influence, to exclude the virtuous and unassumed female from society, as experience has found it is, to raise the suspected to that elevation. This point may now be considered settled, unless indeed, the public should permit the fruits of the great victory, that has been achieved, in favor of the morals of the country, by the high minded independence and virtue of the ladies of Washington, to be lost by perverted and false representations of the real question at issue.

With the same view, and not much less erroneously, Maj. Eaton has given a statement of my application to him in favor of a friend for the place of Chief Clerk, in the War Department. He has so drawn up his statement, as to make an impression, that I suspected all official intercourse with him, because he refused to comply with my application. The fact is far otherwise. It is true, that at the request of my friend, who was also a warm and devoted friend of General Jackson, and had suffered from his attachment to him, I did present his name to Maj. Eaton, and that I had no official intercourse with him afterwards; but for a very different reason from what he alleges; a reason which every individual, who has even a moderate share of self-respect, must deem amply sufficient, as a brief statement of the facts will prove. The application was made, not at the early period he states, (which was necessary to make the impression he intends) when it was known he was to be appointed Secretary of War, but after he was appointed, and took possession of his office, and, if it be material, long after Mrs. Calhoun had declined to return Mrs. Eaton's visit. I called at his office a day, or two, before I left the city; I informed him, that I called at the request of my friend, simply to state my impression of his qualifications and not longer his claim. After I had stated my impression in my friend's favor, he told me, he was well satisfied with his qualifications, but that he had offered the place to another gentleman, whom he named, but informing me, at the same time, if he should decline, my friend would receive the appointment. I remarked, that the person to whom he had offered the place, was perfectly qualified, and that I could not say a word to weaken his claim. Besides his qualifications, his relation with me, was at least as intimate and friendly, as his, whose name I had presented, and as between them, it could not possibly be a source of offence, that the former was selected; which, all who know me will admit, when I say the gentleman selected was Col. Gadsden. The next day, I received a letter from Gov. Hamilton then a member of Congress, in whom Maj. Eaton alludes, as my friend, stating, that he had made application to Maj. Eaton in favor of the person for whom I had applied, with the favourable result of his application. On the strength of this, as well as his promise to me, I wrote to my friend enclosing Gov. Hamilton's letter and informing him he might expect the appointment with confidence, as I felt almost certain, that Col.

would decline the office.—He did decline, but contrary to promise, another person was appointed, without giving me any explanation, then, or since. It was this breach of promise, remaining still unexplained, which interposed a barrier on my part to further official intercourse between us; and, just as Maj. Eaton represents, the mere refusal to grant the appointment, which of itself would never have had the least effect with me. If there should be any doubt as to the promise, or the time of the application, the letter of Gov. Hamilton to me, and mine to my friend, both of which I suppose to be in existence, will establish the correctness of my statement.

But it seems that I am to be held responsible for the supposed feuds of the late Cabinet and the dissolution, because, as Maj. Eaton states, an ardent friend of the Vice President said in 1829, that Maj. Eaton is the friend of Mr. Calhoun. It would have been much more satisfactory, if Maj. Eaton had given the name of this supposed friend, with the time, place and circumstances, not only to enable him to give a statement of the occurrence, but to afford me an opportunity of judging how far I ought to be responsible. I would have been both to him and me an act of simple justice, which as far as I am concerned, would have been particularly desirable, as I must object to the competency of Maj. Eaton and his associates, to determine who are, or who are not my friends. They appear particularly liable to error on this point. But a short time since, it was gravely charged in an almost official quarter, that my friends had a meeting to expel him from the Cabinet when it turned out, on further disclosures, that they were all gentlemen from the Western States, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Louisiana, and devoted friends to Gen. Jackson, actuated solely by a regard for the success and honor of his administration; a step, of the existence of which, I was ignorant till after the meeting, and, of the particulars, till disclosed by the recent publications. If to this I add, Maj. Eaton's own liability to fall into error in determining who are, or are not my political friends, as insinuated in his late address, it will not, I am sure, be thought unreasonable, that I should object to his competency in that particular. When it is necessary to hold me responsible for scenes, the origin of which he shows uncommon anxiety to shift to the shoulders of those, he errs, on that point, in relation to some of his late associates in the administration. If, in his anxiety to implicate me, he mistakes the political relations between Mr. Branch and Mr. Berrien, and myself, gentlemen of whose sentiments one would suppose he could not be ignorant, we may reasonably suppose, that he is equally mistaken in the case under consideration.

The inference he would draw from Gen. Green's course, in relation to myself, can scarcely deserve more than a passing notice. Gen. Green's course has been of his own choosing, without an attempt on my part to influence him. Such an attempt would indeed have been perfectly idle. If he should be supposed to be governed by base and selfish views, how could I influence him? Such an attempt would indeed have been perfectly idle. I had nothing to give, where he had much to lose. On the contrary supposition, that he was governed by a sense of truth and justice, an attempt to influence him was unnecessary. My course, I trust, afforded ample motives of that description. If it had not, it would have been in vain in me, on the supposition of his honesty, to have attempted to obtain his support; as it clearly would have been, on the opposite, to have obtained it at all. As I have been compelled to speak of Gen. Green, it is due, in justice, to him to say, that I believe Gen. Jackson had no friend more zealous and honest in his cause. Whatever may be his present feelings, I know from his own declarations, that he was early and decidedly enlisted in favour of his re-election. His own interest evidently lay in that direction, as I believe his views of public policy did. If he has since changed his opinion, many causes may be found, in what has since transpired, without attributing it to any imaginary influence over him, on my part, when it must be apparent to all, with the whole power and patronage of the government, against me, I had nothing thro' which to exercise it.

Having corrected the errors of Maj. Eaton's statements and inferences, wherever he has descended into particulars, it only remains to repel his general charges and insinuations, which I do by a direct and positive contradiction. It is not true, that I attempted to exercise an unwarranted influence on the late Cabinet, or to influence its patronage, or that I made any attempt to embarrass the administration in the Senate, or elsewhere, or am in any way responsible for the dissolution of the late Cabinet; unless indeed the dissolution of the late Cabinet, or the character against the vindication of infidelity should be considered sufficient to render me responsible. These are not only offences, in

which the reverse of all of these general charges and insinuations is true. Gen. Jackson never consulted me as to the formation of his Cabinet. He was even then, as it now appears, alienated from me, by means, which have been explained on a former occasion. As he did not consult me, I had too much self-respect and regard for the dignity of the office I held to intrude my advice; while the disinterestedness of my particular friends freed me from all solicitude on the score of patronage. As a body, they neither sought, nor desired office. The most prominent of them, those who had taken the most decided and effective part in favour of Gen. Jackson's election, had openly avowed their determination not to take office. In supporting him, they were actuated by far different, and much more elevated motives, than the low and sordid ambition, that looks to power and patronage. Their object was to maintain principles which they believed to be essential to the liberty and happiness of the country, to restore the administration of the General Government to the true principles of the Constitution, and to arrest, that course of events, which was rapidly bringing the great interest of the country into the most dangerous conflict; and so much higher did they hold these considerations, than the elevation of any man to power, that, as is well known, pending the election, while zealously supporting Gen. Jackson, they refused to advance his interest by the best statement of their zeal in the maintenance of their principle. Nor is the charge of embarrassing the administration less remote from truth. I was most anxious for the success of Gen. Jackson's administration; and, tho' I saw much, I could not approve, yet I continued to give him my support, while I possibly could, consistently with duty. That such was my course, I appeal with confidence to all who were intimate with me, to the members of the body over which I preside, and especially to the two Senators from Tennessee, both devoted friends of Gen. Jackson, both men of great sagacity, and both having ample opportunities of forming a correct opinion of my course. In fact, every consideration public and private, of honour, duty and interest led me to desire the success of Gen. Jackson's administration. I had contributed all in my power to the success of his election, and felt, to the full, the obligation, which it imposed.

It is with pain, that I have forced myself to touch on the prominent subject of this communication. The question involved in Mrs. Eaton's relation to the society of Washington belonged, I conceived, exclusively to her sex, and could not be involved in political considerations, or drawn into public discussion, with painful consequences. I acted on these views in my correspondence with Gen. Jackson. I could not be ignorant of the use made of it by those who by their artful machinations have placed Gen. Jackson and myself in our present relation; but the desire to do nothing on my part that could tend to draw the question from the tribunal to which it properly and exclusively belonged, restrained me from making the least allusion to it, in the correspondence, tho' calculated to throw light on the controversy between us and to strengthen me in the conflict.

J. C. CALHOUN.

FOREIGN.

FRENCH EXPEDITION TO LISBON.

The following is the account of the French Expedition to Lisbon as communicated by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of France to the Chamber of Deputies. We translate it from the *Courier des Etats Unis*. "I shall not enter into a detail of the causes which led to and preceded the expedition. The Chamber is aware that two Frenchmen living in Portugal were inquisitously seized and imprisoned, and that one of them was even publicly flogged in a public square at Lisbon.

The Chamber also knows that at this period we had no diplomatic relations with Portugal. The Consul instantly protested energetically against this conduct, he demanded the immediate release of the Frenchmen who had been deprived of their liberty, and indemnity for the injury that had been done to them. In consequence of successive refusals on the part of the Portuguese Government he thought proper to embark for France. He arrived at Brest, and on the statement made by him to the Government of the King two frigates and some lighter vessels were sent to the Tagus. Capt. Raouley by the command of this expedition, transmitted to the Minister Santarém a sort of memorial in which he demanded satisfaction from the Portuguese Government for the wrongs complained of by France.

He was further ordered to declare in two or four hours he did not obtain satisfaction, he would comply with the orders of his government and that these orders were to blockade the entrance of the Tagus, regard being had however to the flag and interests of foreigners. On

the 10th of July, the expedition of the King ordered that a squadron should be immediately sent to the Tagus, to which notice at the same time a government of the refusal he had received. As the measures he took, however, might occasion some loss to our commerce in consequence of the Portuguese squadron which was at Tavereira, Capt. Raouley went in pursuit of that squadron, took possession of it and carried it to Brest.

The Council then assembled, and the King ordered that a squadron should be immediately sent to the Tagus, to which notice at the same time a government of the refusal he had received. As the measures he took, however, might occasion some loss to our commerce in consequence of the Portuguese squadron which was at Tavereira, Capt. Raouley went in pursuit of that squadron, took possession of it and carried it to Brest.

The Council then assembled, and the King ordered that a squadron should be immediately sent to the Tagus, to which notice at the same time a government of the refusal he had received. As the measures he took, however, might occasion some loss to our commerce in consequence of the Portuguese squadron which was at Tavereira, Capt. Raouley went in pursuit of that squadron, took possession of it and carried it to Brest.

He gave notice to the Consuls of the resolution he had taken, to profit by the first favorable state of the wind and tide to force the entrance of the Tagus. He requested them to cause neutral vessels to leave the port. On the 11th circumstances were favorable—the French fleet passed under the batteries and forts and silenced their fire at a distance of 200 toises from the Portuguese fleet, moored in the waters of the Tagus. The tone of the Portuguese government was immediately lowered, and it declared that it would accept our proposals.

The 13th of July, the Viscount—You fore- came to extremities. I refer to the 12th of this day, and I confirm the assurance that if to-morrow at 12 o'clock, I have not concluded the convention, of which you have accepted the basis, I will re-commence hostilities against Lisbon. I have depended on your word—I will no longer suffer from the consequences of my error. I expect your Excellency, or a person whom you may designate, this day or to-morrow until 12 o'clock. I will see him on board of my ship, and no where else."

The Portuguese government appointed M. Castelfranco their agent. He came on board the Admiral's ship, provided with full powers from the Viscount de Santarém. The negotiations were terminated on the 14th. The *Moniteur* of the 17th of his month published the conditions to which the Portuguese government has assented. I may be permitted to say, that in these conditions there is something calculated to gratify our national pride.

It has been asked what terms have been offered towards a government which France has not acknowledged. I answer that the agents of the chief of the government have alone been in relation with us, and have alone signed the stipulated conditions. No where will the name of D. Miguel be found.

Among the conditions stipulated will be found that of an indemnity for the expenses of the expedition. I have heard it said that this indemnity was too low. I readily admit, that if it had been necessary to arm and equip a fleet expressly for this expedition, the indemnity would have been quite insufficient, and that it would have been a long time before a fleet would have been ready—It would perhaps have been ready now—but the fleet which left at Lisbon had been got in readiness for a very different circumstance. As for the indemnity, we have thought that an expedition whose object was the obtaining of a national reputation, ought not to be converted into a matter of money. We thought that we ought only to receive an indemnity for what had actually been expended during the course of the expedition, and that only during the period the fleet had been employed against Portugal, it ought to be considered at the charge of that country.

The fleet was composed of 6 ships of the line, 3 frigates, and some smaller vessels. A ship costs 50,000 francs a month for wages and other expenses—six ships, therefore, cost 300,000 francs during one month—600,000 francs during six months. The expenses of the vessels, the maintenance, have been estimated at 200,000 francs—in all 800,000 francs.

I will not leave the Tribune without thanking the Chamber, if I am permitted, for the kind feelings it has shown towards the expedition to the Tagus and those who have taken part in it. I ask permission also to pass over in silence the instructions given in relation to it. I will merely observe, that the orders of the Minister have been executed with the greatest exactness.