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TO THE CITIZENS

OF CHERAW, AND OF MARION, Horry AND GEORGETOWN DISTRICTS.

Friends and Fellow-Citizens,

SIX years are now nearly elapsed, since I was first, by your votes, promoted to a seat in the National Legislature, as your immediate representative. On three successive elections, I have still found myself indebted to you, for a continuance in this high trust, and the renewed pledge of your confidence and partiality towards me. I have however, during this certainly not uninteresting period, and contrary to the practice of late years introduced, declined circulating among you any of those political addresses at present so much in vogue, and so well known, under the title of Circular-Letters. I was apprehensive, lest, (as I observed it almost invariably happened in the case of others) personal feelings, erroneous impressions, the warmth and irritation of the moment, might cause me to give a false colouring to things, at present to you an ex-parte account of measures, as well as of the inducements and motives which gave rise to them. To me it has appeared better, more becoming, & more respectful, to leave it to your own good sense and sober judgment, to form a cool and deliberate opinion, in regard to the laws enacted at each session, and the various transactions of the government, from the arguments urged for and against them in debate, and the effect they might produce on the happiness and prosperity of the nation. I have accordingly confined myself hitherto, to an occasional and private communication of such occurrences as I judged it might be expedient that you should be early & correctly made acquainted with, and have avoided presenting you any thing like a public address. It is not my intention on the present occasion, to deviate materially from this line of conduct. But as circumstances both of a public and a private nature, lead me to think it expedient and proper, that I should (after the expiration of the term for which I have been already elected) withdraw from public life; and the period is fast approaching at which the law of the State has fixed the election of those of our fellow-citizens who are to represent us in the next Congress; I deem it due to you, and incumbent on me, thus early and publicly to apprise you of the resolution I have formed, to decline being considered among the number of those who may be held up as candidates at the ensuing election of a member to represent these united Districts in the National Legislature.

There is another, I confess, not less cogent inducement, to the present address. Although little in the habit of making professions, and well aware what little reliance is to be placed in them, I would not be thought insensible to the good opinion of my Fellow-Citizens, or unmindful of any kindness received at their hands; I rejoice, therefore, in having a proper opportunity to express the deep sense I entertain of your partiality towards me, and the confidence you have so long continued to evince, at least in my good intentions. I avail myself indeed, the more willingly, & with the more pleasure, of the present occasion, to manifest these feelings, under the impression, and in the hope, that they will be the more easily and readily accepted, as the disinterested and genuine effusions of my heart, when it is recollected that I am no longer a candidate for those favors for which I have been heretofore indebted to you. And I shall not, I trust, be misunderstood, nor deemed less sensible of my obligations to those of you, my kind and much respected friends, to whose immediate votes and support I have been indebted for the repeated honour of representing so large and respectable a number of the Citizens of my native State, if I venture at the same time to express my acknowledgements for the hospitality and civility which I have on all occasions experienced on the part of that portion of the community who have thought proper on the day of election, to give a preference to other candidates, better known to them, or more in their confidence.

About to retire from the turmoil and busy scenes of public life, I cannot but look back with some degree of anxiety and solicitude to that portion of my own, which has been spent in the midst of them. I know too well the fallibility of human nature—I am too sensible of my own weakness and frailties, to have the presumption to suppose, that I have been always in the

right, or not frequently in the wrong.—Subsequent events, and better information, have in more instances than one, convinced me of errors I had laboured under, and of mistakes I had committed. Upon a candid, impartial, & dispassionate review however, of my conduct, since I have acted in the capacity of your Representative, I would fain hope, that I shall not be found to have been unusually wanting;—while I feel an honest, and surely not improper pride, in believing myself authorized to state with confidence, and with truth, that I have, to the best of my judgment, faithfully, diligently, and conscientiously discharged the trust you have reposed in me.

But, I have already, Friends and Fellow-Citizens, taken up enough, and more than enough of your time and attention on a subject, so little interesting, as the concerns of an individual like myself. On public affairs, however, or with respect to the many and various incidents, which have occurred during the period for which I have been one of the Actors in the political Drama, it is not my intention to say a single word. The state of things at the present moment, seems to me neither to invite, nor to be peculiarly favorable to useful and dispassionate discussion.—Already the public mind has been, God knows, sufficiently agitated, and continues still more than sufficiently stimulated. In my estimation, it requires time to cool down, and forbearance rather than further excitement, on the part of all those who mean well to their country, and are sincerely attached to the Union of these States. For myself, on the other hand, I wish, if possible, to retire in good humour with the whole world; I can of course feel no disposition to excite difference or less pleasant sensations in the breasts of others. It only, therefore, remains for me, again to offer you my acknowledgements for the favorable sentiments you have entertained towards me; to add, that it will afford me much pleasure to cultivate, as a private citizen, the friendship of those individuals in the various and different parts of these United Districts, with whom I have since my entrance into public life, had the advantage to become acquainted; & lastly, to beg that you will, one and all, together with my best wishes for your happiness and prosperity, accept the assurances of respect and attachment, with which I remain,

Your obliged Friend and Fellow-Citizen,
BENJAMIN HUGER.

PROSPECT-HILL }
June 4, 1804. }

From the Frederick-Town Herald.

Declaration of Independence.—On the 7th day of June 1776, Richard Henry Lee, Esquire, one of the delegates in congress from the state of Virginia, agreeably to notice he had before given, made the motion for a declaration of independence. On the 10th of June a committee was appointed by congress to prepare a declaration, which committee consisted of Messrs. Jefferson, John Adams, Sherman and R. R. Livingston. On the 1st of July, the committee reported to congress a declaration, and on the 4th of July 1776, congress agreed to & adopted the declaration of independence such as it now is. Of late years it has been asserted by the friends of Mr. Jefferson, that this declaration was entirely the work of his pen. This may be so for ought we know, but how they know it to be so we cannot tell. All we know is, that there were in congress at the time, and on the same committee with Mr. Jefferson, heads certainly as good as his, and certainly equal to the writing of the declaration, the substance of which is certainly much more to be admired than the form. But we hardly consider the thing worth disputing about: Because if we were satisfied beyond doubt that Mr. Jefferson wrote the declaration of independence all himself, it would only perhaps increase our respect for the wisdom of the old congress, who knew so well how to use every man in their service according to his pretensions, and who understanding from the character of Mr. Jefferson that he was not one of those who could ever be expected to act a cause well, may perhaps have been willing to let him shew if he was one of those who "talk it well." To be the first mover of the declaration of independence, required a spirit of courage, and therefore Richard Henry Lee was the mover. To be the scribe who penned the declaration, required no courage, and therefore Mr. Jefferson may possibly have been

that scribe. Yet still the matter is not settled so certainly as Mr. Jefferson's friends seem to wish; and we therefore propose to help them out by bringing forward in his behalf a little of what may be called internal evidence. Internal evidence about the writers of books and such like, is that sort of evidence which is drawn, as it were, from a comparison between the things which are written and the situation and character of him who is spoken of as the writer. This evidence has been a good deal used in certain famous disputes in the learned world, about the genuineness of a number of works, such as Ossian and Chatterton's Poems, &c. We now mean to use it in some degree for Mr. Jefferson, by insisting on the probability that particular passages at least in the declaration of independence came from a man of his nature and character. But before we can get to this, it is necessary to state what idea we have as to the nature of his character, so as to render it likely to the public that he wrote those passages. There appears then to us, and it is what we mean now to rely on, to be this particular in the character of Mr. Jefferson;—which is, that on all great occasions he has made it his remarkable practice through life to write in one way as pretty as he can, and to act in another as contrary as he can, or rather promise all and perform none. For an instance or two, if the matter now-a-days was at all doubted we need only turn to his Notes on Virginia or to his Inaugural address: In his book of Notes, he dwells much among other things on the wisdom and necessity of our keeping up a reputable navy, and keeping down disreputable foreigners—His practice in his office has been to keep down our navy below reputable to "the smallest possible force," and to keep up disreputable foreigners (begging Mr. Duane's and Gallatin's pardon) to the highest possible consequence. In his Inaugural address, which he wrote and spoke on being made president, among many other promises, all very soon dead and buried, he promised to consider us "all brethren of the same principle—all republicans all federalists," and to avoid every thing like political persecution. His practice as president has been and still is to persecute all federalists for not being of his "sect," and to treat none as republicans but those who join and go with him all lengths. Far be it from us to think of reproaching Mr. Jefferson for any guilt in these things, or to think if we were to prove on him guilt as rank as sin itself that a man of his present firmness would feel reproach, or that followers of his command could be weak enough to feel for him. It is not then our meaning now to be in a passion with Mr. Jefferson, or put him in a passion with us. We are only obliged to mention these circumstances, in order to prove what we set out for by first proving it to be a uniform trait in his character, on public affairs if not on private too, never to say any thing or do by words but what he intends afterwards to undo or gain say by deeds. We pretend not to blame him for this, for it is merely a habit he some how got into, and habit is second nature. Every man to his own fashion, and why not Mr. Jefferson to his? But this being his fashion, we are ready to admit he may be the author of certain parts of the declaration of independence, of certain parts which he has more especially than the rest contradicted and falsified by his conduct since. In enumerating the list of injuries done the colonies by the King of England, so as to justify our Revolution, the declaration states—

"He has made Judges dependent on his will alone for the tenure of their office."—The best possible reason to believe that Mr. Jefferson wrote this part himself, is, that he has lately himself made it a point to commit the same offence by repealing the Judiciary, which has in fact "made the Judges dependent on his (and congress's) will alone for the tenure of their offices."

"He (the King) has erected a multitude of new offices, &c. He has combined with others, for abolishing the free system of English laws in a neighbouring province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its boundaries, so as to render it an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these colonies."—With respect to the proof of Mr. Jefferson's being the author of this, or with respect to the like kind of conduct in himself as that here accused, see Louisiana and all things now belong to it.

"He (the King) has excited domestic in-

urrection among us."—As to the matter of that, we will not say that our new king Jefferson has excited domestic insurrection among us. But his friends in Pennsylvania have twice excited an insurrection, and his secretary of the treasury can bear witness that some of them have been well rewarded by Mr. Jefferson. So that of this passage likewise Mr. Jefferson may have been the writer.

"He (the King) has abdicated government here."—Col. Tarlton, if he is alive, might testify a little on this subject, so far as running away is to abdicate; and therefore Mr. Jefferson may claim this sentence also if he pleases.

"For the support of this declaration (it is said at the conclusion) we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honour."—And then follow the names of Congress all signed, and Mr. Jefferson's name among the rest. Now, above all, it seems natural that Mr. Jefferson himself composed this promise to support Independence with his life and fortune, because it is notorious in flying from the British to Carter's mountain he did not support it with one or the other; and it is likely he added the last pledge of his "sacred honour," because for him it was a cheap pledge, "sacred honour" being what he never had before and what he must have been fully aware he never should have during life. So that altogether, we might allow him some share in the language of the declaration of independence, if his creatures will allow, what is the fact whether they allow it or not, that he has in turns neglected, deserted and violated the best and dearest principles of this declaration. And that the people, unless they too have done the same, should any longer continue dependent on him with Virginia to back him, when the allegiance can be absolved by their own mere election, must be matter of astonishment as well as deep regret to every person not yet bewildered and lost in the rule of contraries.

From a London Paper.

If the arrest, trial, and condemnation of the Duke d'Enghien, by the orders of the Tyrant who now rules in France, has produced the same honest indignation in other independent States, which it has done here, the First Consul will have no reason ultimately to rejoice in the success of his diabolical machination. Such an outrage against the general law of civilized Europe, must excite the indignation of every Sovereign; nor can their subjects feel indifferent to the question. If free men are, with impunity, to be carried away by force from their habitations, and from the country which gives them protection, and to the laws of which they are subject, there is an end to all order, to all safety, to every thing worth contending for among civilized men.

The Duke d'Enghien, who is the Prince Guemenc, of whom the Moniteur talks, had resided at or near the place where he was arrested for some time past, on a property which he received from the Cardinal de Rohan, Prince Bishop of Strasburg, and part of whose territories lay on the German side of the Rhine. The Duke d'Enghien, therefore does not labor under the suspicion of having been engaged in plots from his being found so near the French territories. A Prince of the Blood Royal of France has thus been kidnapped from his adopted country, carried to his native country, and there doomed to die—by a man who was not born a French subject, and yet has the insolence to treat the descendants of Henry IV. as aliens, when they are to be robbed of their inheritance; and subjects, when they are to be murdered.—Such are the vicissitudes of human affairs.

The Duke d'Enghien is, we are afraid we must say was, the most accomplished of the French princes. He fought in his grand father's corps during the war, and greatly distinguished himself. It was natural, indeed, that the First Consul should be alarmed at his neighborhood.

The letters from Strasburg, in the Paris Journals, take it for granted that application was made to the Elector of Baden, for his permission to enter his territories. We doubt this very much. If any application had been made to the Elector of Baden, at least he ought to have been at liberty to send the accused out of his territory. He had no right to deliver up the Duke d'Enghien to the French government, both because the Duke was residing on his own property, which by the plans of indemnities, it seems had been annexed to the State of