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POLITICAL.

CORRESPONDENCE, &c.

(Continued from page 26.)

To the Editor of the U. S. Telegraph.

GENERAL GREEN.—I herewith enclose a statement, which I wish to be published in your paper, as supplemental to my correspondence with General Jackson, and which has been made necessary by the publication of Mr. Forsyth's letter to Mr. Hamilton. J. C. CALHOUN.

In my letter to Gen. Jackson of the 29th May, 1830, published in the correspondence, speaking of the plot to destroy my political standing, I stated, "that several indications forewarned me long since, that a blow was meditated against me; I will not say from the quarter from which this comes; but, 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 of the cabinet in the Seminole war, which, though it did not then excite particular attention, has since, in connexion with other circumstances, served to direct my eye to what was going on." The letter of Mr. Forsyth to Mr. Hamilton, of New-York, to whom I referred in the above extract published by the former in the U. States Telegraph, of the 22d inst. enables me to trace another link in this artful conspiracy against my character, which I trust will form a sufficient apology for again intruding myself on public attention. If a copy of this letter, which seems, was placed in the hands of the President, when Mr. Forsyth put him in possession of a copy of Mr. Crawford's letter to him of the 30th April, 1830, had been furnished me, as in justice ought to have been, the remarks that I am now constrained to make, would have appeared in the body of the correspondence with Gen. Jackson, and would have saved me the pain of again troubling the public.

I then conceived I had a right to be put in possession of all the facts and circumstances referred to in Mr. Crawford's letter to Mr. Forsyth, and that the withholding of them was an act of injustice to me, calculated, whatever may have been the intention, to deprive me of the means of tracing out and exposing to the public, what it did not doubt to be a base political plot. The letter from Mr. Forsyth to Mr. Hamilton, now published, it seems, was the one referred to by Mr. Crawford in his letter to Mr. Forsyth, but with the name of Mr. Hamilton left blank in the copy of Mr. Crawford's letter which was furnished me. The facts disclosed by the publication of Mr. Forsyth's letter to Mr. Hamilton, taken in connexion with the correspondence alluded to with the present district attorney of the Southern District of New-York, will prove, as I will presently show, that I had just cause to complain that evidence, material to my vindication, was withheld; and I cannot but regret, that Mr. Forsyth's "respect to the personal delicacy of Mr. Hamilton," has in its effects operated, though it may not have been so intended, unjustly towards me, by preventing me from tracing in my correspondence with Gen. Jackson, one of the earliest, and I must add, the foulest movements in this political conspiracy. What I could have done then in connexion with the general chain of my remarks, I am now constrained to do in this detached way, with great disadvantage to my vindication; the full force of which would have been more deeply felt by viewing all the circumstances in connexion.

This letter, by its date and other circumstances, clearly connects itself with Mr. Hamilton's correspondence with me, already alluded to; makes this correspondence a link in the chain of this corrupt political intrigue, thereby carrying back the movement to the early part of the year of 1828; and by its reference to an individual (Major Lewis) then residing in Nashville, as will be seen in the copy of the correspondence with Mr. Hamilton, hereto annexed, shows it to be a part of the system of operations which, as it appears by Mr. Crawford's letter to Mr. Balch, had been commenced against me in December, 1827, and following so soon after, probably constitutes the second link in this

foul plot against an individual zealous co-operating at the same time in the same political cause with those conspiring against him; and who, from their political relation to him at the time, he had a right to consider his friends. I take no pleasure in exposing a transaction so disgraceful, but I feel myself compelled to do so in the discharge of a private and public duty. It must be painful and mortifying to the public to know, that the practice of such arts is possible under our system, but the knowledge that it is so, may guard against its recurrence in future.

In order to give a clear understanding of the affair, it will be necessary to make a few preliminary remarks.

It appears from Mr. Forsyth's letter, that it was written in reply to a letter, dated at Savannah, the 25th of January, 1828, from Mr. Hamilton, who was then on his return from New-Orleans, where he had been by the appointment of the Tammany Society of New-York, to represent them, as I understood, in the celebration of the 8th Jan. 1828. Gen. Jackson had been invited by the Legislature to attend the celebration. Mr. Hamilton on his way to New-Orleans, passed through this city in Dec. 1827, when Congress was in session, and after remaining here some days, he proceeded to Nashville and accompanied the General and suite to New-Orleans. From Savannah he returned to New-York through this place, where he again remained some time, Congress being still in session. Whether this letter of Mr. Hamilton to Mr. Forsyth was the commencement of the intrigue, or whether it originated at an earlier date, at this place on his way to Nashville, or while there, I am unable to say; but I cannot doubt that the arrangements for its accomplishment were made on his return from Savannah to this place. At the time, I was decidedly, and I may add zealously, engaged in the support of Gen. Jackson. I believed his election by Congress was prevented by a departure from a most important, fundamental principle in our system, and that he was the only individual in the country who united the popularity and firmness to arrest, if elected, what I then and now consider a dangerous tendency in our affairs. Under this impression I stood prepared to render him every aid in my power to secure his 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 a warm supporter of Gen. 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 enquired 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 enquiry 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 Feb. I neither did nor could use the expression "only," as it would have been both inconsistent with facts and absurd, as the publication of 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 any thing 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 26th Feb. the object of which was, apparently, to know if he understood my conversation correctly.

an apprehended attack, founded on events connected with the Seminole campaign. This disclosure, particularly that the information was intended for Major Lewis as a confidential friend of Gen. 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 August, 1818, in answer to his of the 19th Sept. of the same year, both of which are published with my correspondence with Gen. Jackson, he was at his farm in Albemarle, Gen. J. in his letter, objected to the construction which had been placed on his orders. Mr. Monroe addressed me a private letter of the 9th Sept. 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 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 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 Gen. 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 Gen. Jackson, (the one published with the correspondence between Gen. 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 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 28th 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 my 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 facts 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 in 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 of 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 his 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 of Feb. to his letter dated the 25th Jan. preceding. The very question which he put to me, as I must now say, so insidiously, whether there was a motion to arrest Gen. 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 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 that time, I had a right to consider as friendly, for the purpose of extracting from me, under the pretext of defending Gen. Jackson, some unguarded expression, which, at a future period, after he might be raised, in part by my exertions, 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 January, to 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, can well appreciate the pain which he must feel from 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 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 also 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 Gen. Jackson, was a reply, has not yet been put in 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 Sept., which has been purloined from me, and passed into the hands of Gen. 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 Gen. 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. Crowninshield and Mr. Adams. A subsequent acknowledgement 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 garbled 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 acknowledgement 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 twelve years ago, when daring to construe orders, 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 venturing to suggest the course, 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 it is my only offence.

A. Copy of a letter from Mr. Monroe to Mr. to Mr. Calhoun.

Highland, Sept. 9, 1830.

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 Gen. 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 from you on this head, and in this stage, seems to be the most necessary from the presumption that it may be my duty to state to Congress that he transcended 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.

B. 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