

THE WRITINGS OF
George
Washington

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*TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

Philadelphia, December 30, 1794.

Sir: The considerations which you have often suggested to me, and are repeated in your letter of the 28th. instant,⁶⁵ as requiring your departure from your present office, are such, as to preclude the possibility of my urging your continuance in it. This being the case, I can only wish that it was otherwise.

I cannot suffer you, however, to close your public service without uniting with the satisfaction, which must arise in your own mind from a conscious rectitude, my most perfect persuasion, that you have deserved well of your country.

My personal knowledge of your exertions, while it authorizes me to hold this language, justifies the sincere friendship which I have ever borne for you, and which will accompany you in every situation of life. being with Affecte. regard, always Yours.

TO THE SENATE

United States, January 2, 1795.

Gentlemen of the Senate: A spirit of discontent from several causes arose in the early part of the present year among the Six Nations of Indians, and particularly on the ground of a projected settlement by Pennsylvania at Presqu'isle upon Lake Erie. The papers upon this point have already been laid before Congress. It was deemed proper on my part, to endeavour to tranquilize the Indians by pacific measures. Accordingly a time and place was appointed at which a free conference should be had upon all the causes of discontent. And an Agent was

⁶⁵ Knox's letter of resignation is in the *Washington Papers*. Timothy Pickering was nominated Secretary of War, Jan. 2, 1795, and confirmed by the Senate the same day.

On Jan. 1, 1795, Washington issued a proclamation, appointing Thursday, February 19, a day of public thanksgiving and prayer. The text is printed by Richardson in the *Messages and Papers of the Presidents*.

appointed with the Instructions of which No. 1. herewith transmitted is a copy.

A numerous assembly of Indians was held at Canandarqua in the State of New York, the proceedings whereof accompany this message marked No. 2.

The two treaties the one with the Six Nations, and the other with the Oneida, Tuscarora and Stockbridge Indians dwelling in the Country of the Oneidas, which have resulted from the mission of the Agent, are herewith laid before the Senate for their consideration and advice.⁶⁶ The original engagement of the United States to the Oneidas is also sent herewith.⁶⁷

*TO WILLIAM PEARCE

Philadelphia, January 4, 1795.

Mr. Pearce: I have received your letter of the 28th. of last month with its enclosures, and am sorry to hear you were unwell, at that time; but hope you have quite recovered. the warmth, and changeability of the weather have been productive of violent colds in this part of the country.

Such has been the goodness of the last autumn; and mildness and openness of the winter, hitherto, that I hope all the Oat grounds will be got in good order for early Seeding of this grain, and clover, (where the latter is to accompany it;) for I have always found that late sowed oats, or clover, unless followed by a dripping spring, and in other respects suitable weather, rarely come to much. Dry and hot weather prevents the growth of the first, and entirely destroys the latter, in the young and tender stage of its growth.

After getting out as many of your *best qualittied* Oats for Seed, as the ground by the rotations, and such other as you shall

⁶⁶ The Senate ratified this treaty of Nov. 11, 1794, and the treaty with the Oneidas *et al.* on Jan. 9. 1795.

⁶⁷ From the "Letter Book" copy in the *Washington Papers*.

tract consists of land *well* adapted to farming; a large proportion of which might be converted into good meadow, at no great expence. I have been offered £5 an Acre for it, part down, and the residue in a few years, (I presume) with interest. The request I make therefore is this an adequate price for land with the advantages I have described; situated as they are; viz 19 miles from Alexandria and about 3 miles from Matildaville?

The reason why I trouble you with this enquiry is, that I know you have property in that part of the Country, and are well acquainted with the rise of property in the vicinity of the federal city.

Your answer, as soon as it is convenient to you to give it, would oblige me, I must give mine in a very short time. With esteem etc.

*To WILLIAM AUGUSTINE WASHINGTON

Philadelphia, March 31, 1795.

My dear Sir: By yesterdays Post, I recd. the enclosed letter from Mr. Cabot (one of the Senators from Massachusetts) covering another from Judge Phillips³⁷ (one of the most respectable characters in Andover, where the Academy is).

Mr. Cabot, who is a sensible and judicious man, is the person I requested to make enquiry into the present state of things at Andover (having had two, or more sons educated at that Seminary). Mr. Phillip's gives it and both may be relied on. It rests with you to decide, whether you will send your Sons there, or not; and with me to give the information which is required in Judge Phillips's letter and this as soon as you will enable me to do it.

³⁷ Judge Samuel Phillips.

It is unlucky, that conveyances to you by Post are so tedious, if not uncertain; and that other opportunities rarely happen. About the 20th. of April I shall be at Mount Vernon for a stay of a few days *only*. If, therefore, you cannot get a letter to me at this place by the 14th; nor to Mount Vernon by the 30th: of that month; I shall not receive it until after I shall have returned to this city; which wd. be a little out of season. Having stated these matters to you, as they have come to me, I have only to add that with sincere friendship, and affecte. regard I am etc.³⁸

*LIST OF GOVERNMENT OFFICERS

[March, 1795.]			
Officers			
States	Offices	have been	Now are
New Hampshire	Commr. settling accts. between U. S and dividl. St.	Woody. Langden ³⁹	.....
Massachusetts.	Secy of War	Nichs. Gilman	.....
	Judge S. Court	.....	General Knox
	Minister Hold.	.....	Wm. Cushing
	Post Mastr. Genl.	.....	Jno. Adams Junr. ⁴⁰
Rhode Isl	Indn. Commr.	Saml. Osgood	.....
	Treasr. Mint	Benj. Lincoln	.....
	Ministr. Port	Tristm. Dalton	.....
Vermont	.....	.....	.....
Connecticut.	.....	.....	David Humphreys

³⁸ From a photostat of the original through the kindness of Dr. A. S. W. Rosenbach, of New York City.

³⁹ Woodbury Langdon.

⁴⁰ John Quincy Adams.

States	Offices	Officers	
		have been	Now are
Connecticut.	Commr. Indns.	Davd. Humphreys	.....
	Auditor	Olivr. Wolcot	.....
New York.	Comptroller	.....	Olivr. Wolcot
	Secy. of Treasury	.....	Alexr. Hamilton
New Jersey.	Chief Justice	.....	John Jay
	Ministr. France	Govr. Morris	.....
Pennsylvania.	Judge S. Court	.....	Wm. Patterson
	Judge S. Court	.....	James Wilson
	Attorney Genl.	.....	Wm. Bradford
	Postmr. Genl.	.....	Tim Pickering
	Director of Mint	.....	D. Rittenhouse
	Commr. Revenue	.....	Tench Coxe
	Govr. No. W. Terry.	.....	Arthr. St. Clair
	Treasur. U. S.	.....	Saml. Meridith
	Accomptt. W.D.	.....	Joseph Howell
	Judge No. Wn. Terry.	.....	Geo. Turner
	Comr. in chief A:	.....	Anthy. Wayne
	Brigr. General	.....	Jams. Wilkinson
Maryland	Qr. Mastr. General	.....	OHarra ⁴¹
	Comr. Accts. U. S. & In: S ⁴²	Wm. Irvine	.....
	Indian Comr.	Timy. Pickering	.....
	Besides Subordinate Characters in the Mint	.....	.....
	Judge Supe. Court	Thos. Johnson	.....
	Ministr. in Spain.	Wm. Carmichael	.....
			
			
			
			

⁴¹James O'Harra.
⁴²Individual States.

States	Offices	Officers	
		have been	Now are
Maryland	Judge Sup Court	Robt. H. Harrison	.....
	Commisr. Fedl. Distt.	.....	.....
Virginia	Ditto Do	.....	Danl. Carroll
	Ditto Do	.....	Gusto. Scott
	Secy. of State	Thos. Jefferson	.....
	Ditto Do	.....	Edmd. Randolph
	Atty. General	Edmd. Randolph	.....
	Ministr. France	.....	James Monroe
No. Carolina ...	Ditto Spain	.....	Willm. Short
	Auditor of Accts.	.....	Richd. Harrison
	Register	.....	Joh. Nourse ⁴³
	Indn. Commr.	Beverley Randolph	.....
	Commr. Fedl. Dists.	David Stuart	.....
	Judge Sup. Court	.....	Jas. Iredal
So. Carolina ...	Govr. So. Wn. Terry.	.....	Wm. Blount
	Judge Sup Court	Jno. Rutledge	.....
	Minr. G. Britain	.....	Thos. Pickney ⁴⁴
	Comptroller	Nichs. Eveleigh	.....
	Comr. U. S and In S	John Kean	.....
			
Georgia and Kentucky have furnished no characters			
New Hampshire			

⁴³Joseph Nourse.
⁴⁴Thomas Pinckney.

States	Offices	Officers	
		have been	Now are
Massachusetts ..	John Adams	.....	
	junr.		
	Elbridge Gerry	.....	H K. ⁴⁵ and A. H. ⁴⁶
	Charles Jarvis	.....	A. H.
	Christn. Gore	.....	A. H.
	Willm. Dana	.....	
	James Bowdoin	.....	
	James Sullivan	.....	A. H.
Rhode Island ...			
Vermont			
Connecticut ..	David Hum- phreys	.....	to be exchanged
	Joel Barlow	.....	now in France
	Pierpoint Ed- wards		
New York	George Clinton	.....	A H
	Willm. S. Smith		
	Brockht. Liv- ingston		
New Jersey	Willm. Patter- son		
	Saml. Stockton		
	Wm. Temple Franklin		
Pennsylvania ...	Thos. Miffin	.....	A. H. and E R ⁴⁷
	Willm. Bingham	.....	A H. and H K.
	Willm. Brad- ford	.....	A H.
	Jared Ingersol	.....	A H.
	Chas. Thomp- son ⁴⁸	.....	H. K.

⁴⁵ Henry Knox.
⁴⁶ Alexander Hamilton.
⁴⁷ Edmund Randolph.
⁴⁸ Charles Thomson.

States	Offices	Officers	
		have been	Now are
Pennsylvania ...	Richd. Peters	.....	
	Chas. Petitt	.....	
Delaware	John Dickenson		
Maryland	Thomas Johnson	.....	A H
	Willm. Paca	.....	E R and A H
	Thos. S. Lee	.....	A H and H K
	James McHenry	.....	A H
Virginia	Thos. Jefferson	.....	A H. and H K
	James Madison	.....	A H. and H K
	Henry Lee	.....	E R. A H. and H K.
	Patrick Henry	.....	
	James Innes	.....	E R
	Edmd. Randolph	.....	A H
	John Marshall	.....	A. H.
	Cyrus Griffin	.....	
North Carolina ..			
South Carolina ..	John Rutledge	.....	A. H. and H K
	Edwd. Rutledge	.....	E R. A H and H K
	Chs. C. Pinckney	.....	A. H.
	Chas. Pinckney	.....	
Georgia	Nathl. Pendleton	.....	A. H.
	Baldwin	.....	A. H.
Kentucky			
	Aaron Burr	.....	
	John Rutherford	.....	

*To JOHN GILL

Philadelphia, April 1, 1795.

Sir: Having had a more advantageous offer for my land on Difficult run, than that which is contained in your letter of the 26th. Ultio; it follows of course that the one made by you, cannot be agreed to.