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question, and so erroneously represented, that comment. neither justice to myself nor respect for you The movement thus commenced did not terwill permit me any longer to remain silent; I minate with this letter. It was followed by ALFRED BALCH, Esq. allude to my course, in the deliberations of the other attacks from the same and other quar-Cabinet of Mr. Monroe, on the Seminole ques- ters, some of which are indicated in the cor- writing of Gen. Newnan.) tion. I know not how I can place more fully respondence now laid before you. before you all the facts and circumstances of It may be proper to state, that I remained

which you have elevated me, far outweigh all dangerous conflict. other considerations. Should my vindicati-1 have any political or personal bearing, I can only say that it will not be because I have either willed or desired it. It is my intention simply Copy of a letter from Hon. Wilson Lumpkio, to place my own conduct in its proper light, and not to assault others. Nor ought I to be held responsible should any such consequence follow; as I am free from all agency in resuscitating this old subject, or bringing it to the knowledge of the public. Previous to my arrival here, I had confined the knowledge of the of a letter received from my friend General both to General Jackson and myself; not that I friend's letter. non had been of no avail, and that the corres- ests of our common country require, not on comment in most of the public journals. The patriotic citizen of the whole country, to frown accounts of the affair, as is usually the case of substances, I should accounts of the affair, as is usually the case of substances of the whole country, to frown the least degree. accounts of the affair, as is usually the case on dudigmently appropriately occasions, were, for the most part, guess-political juggless, a ly injurious to my character. Still I deemed conquer. it my duty to take no hasty step, being deter- I feel the more at liberty and authorized to mined to afford time for justice to be done me make this communication, because I know, of without appeal to you; and, if it should be, to my own kn evledge, you and your friends are Between remain silent, as my only object was the vindi- misrepresented upon this subject. However,

to your deliberate and final decision. which I am placed—standing unsustained, ex. the present time. How, then, can it be pos- enclosed copy of a letter from Wm. H. Crawcept by the force of truth and justice, yet I sible that General Jackson can suspect the ford, Esq. which was placed in my hands on cannot but look with confidence to your deci- friendship, constancy, or sincerity of you yesterday. The submission, you will persion. The question presented for your consi- or your friends? No; he cannot—he will ceive, is authorized by the writer. The statederation is not that of a contreversy of two not-he does not. I have quite too much ments and facts it presents being so different individuals, between whom you are to decide; confidence in the General to believe such idle from what I had heretofore understood to be viewed in that light, it would bear the aspect tales. of a mere personal difference, involving no Nevertheless, it is proper for you and him your consideration. They are different from principle, and unworthy of your notice, but both to be apprized of the machinations of the your letter to Governor Bibb, of Alabama, of regarded in a different light, as involving the mischievous. character of an officer, occupying by your suf-frage, a distinguished official station, whose tion in any way you please.

You are at liberty to use this communica-duct the war in the manner he may judge I conduct in an interesting public transaction had been impeached, it assumes a far more important bearing, and presents a question of deep import for your consideration. The most sacred of all political relations is that between ficial station, a most solemn obligation is imposed on you and him, on the faithful discharge of which the existence of our free and happy

your entire approbation. come. Among these circumstances, is the for one moment the allegiations of W. H. necessity of being instrumental in disclosing. C." in any degree, what I deem so highly confidential as the proceedings of the Cabinet, and for which I feel myself justified only by Copy of a letter from William H. Crawford absolute necessity. Acting under this impression, I have not felt myself at liberty to go, speaking of the course of my associates in the sure of receiving a letter, from you. If I un- you at the time and place, and upon the sub- or Bibb, that I concurred with you in thinking posite construction to your orders. In fact, And here I must premise, that the object of administration and even of my own, beyond derstand your letter, you appear to think ject, in that enclosure stated, but I have not a that your orders were intended to authorize the letter, on its face, proves that it was not a cabinet council is not to bring together opi-

cal controversics long since passed, afforded will, as certainly as that of Tennessee, be ington was published in a Nashville paper, in

tions, that has terminated by involving Gene- houn were most active in giving it currency, young officer had acted so he might be safely Mr. Monroe's letter of the 19th July, 1818, to act against the Spanish posts, and the apral Jackson and myself in the present corres- and know personally that Mr. Calhoun fevor- punished, Mr. Adams said that if Gen. Jack- the first of the series, and written immediately probation of the President of the measures you pondence. A copy of the letter which open- ed Mr. Adam's, pretensions until Mr. Clay son had acted to apply to CORRESPONDENCE

declared for him. He will know that Clay officer, shooting was too good for him. This, which I have given a copious extract, enters those detailed in your letter. I do not think session. It was written by Mr. Crawford to Monroe to an indimited appoint of what Gen.

Acopy of the letter which was a subaltern after the decision of the cabinet, and from bad adopted could only be intended to apply to those detailed in your letter. I do not think session. It was written by Mr. Crawford to Monroe to an indimited appoint of what Gen.

Alfred Balch. Esc. of Nashville, and is dated C. Calhoun, President and Vice President the 14th December, 1827. That the nature be put down if Adam's influence could effect Jackson had done, and not with an unfriend- of August, 1818, you object to the construction self placed the true construction, considered of the United States, on the subject of the and objects of the operations against me may lit. If he was not friendly to his election, why ly view to the decimal it. If he was not friendly to his election, why ly view to the decimal it. If he was not friendly to his election, why ly view to the decimal it. If he was not friendly to his election, why ly view to the decimal it. If he was not friendly to his election, why ly view to the decimal it. If he was not friendly to his election, why ly view to the decimal it. If he was not friendly to his election, why ly view to the decimal it. If he was not friendly to his election, why ly view to the decimal it. If he was not friendly to his election, why ly view to the decimal it. If he was not friendly to his election, why ly view to the decimal it. If he was not friendly to his election, why ly view to the decimal it. If he was not friendly to his election, why ly view to the decimal it. If he was not friendly to his election, why ly view to the decimal it. If he was not friendly to his election, why ly view to the decimal it. If he was not friendly to his election, why ly view to the decimal it. of the latter in the deliberations of the latter in the deliberations of the convention of the convent the copy of Mr. Crawford's letter to Mr. Balch, Adams's printer, without making some stipu- change after the cabinet had been convened. why you conceived that the orders under say, that the construction of the former is in the Cabinet of Mr. Monroe on the occurren- and a copy of a letter from the Honorable lation in favor of Jackson. If you can ascer- Mr. Calhoun made some allusion to a letter from the Honorable lation in favor of Jackson. If you can ascer- Mr. Calhoun made some allusion to a letter from the Honorable lation in favor of Jackson. Wilson Lumpkin, a representative in Congress tain that Calboun will not be benefitted by the General had written to the President, who Florida. Mr. Monroe replied on the 20th Oc- up the orders; and that, if they be susceptible from the State of Georgia, to me dated the by communicating the information to me.

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE U. STATES.

The State of Georgia, to me dated the by communicating the information to me.

To the People of the State of Georgia, to me dated the by communicating the information to me.

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The people of the state of Georgia, to me dated the by communicating the information to me.

The people of the state of Georgia, to me dated the bad received such an one, that you had placed a construction on your line of the people of the state of Georgia, to me dated the by communicating the information to me.

The people of the people of the state of Georgia, to me dated the by communicating the information to me.

The people of the p I come before you as my constituents, to with an extract from the letter of the Honora- letter of the Honora give an account of my conduct in an important | ble Daniel Newnan, member of Congress elect | show it to whom you please. political transaction, which has been called in from the same State. I submit them without

the correspondence between General Jackson | movements against me, till the spring of 1828, and myself, which will show the difference be- when vague rumors reached me that some attween the views that we will be the collection of having received it. I then said Mr. Monroe's message at the opening of Con- to you,) was in fact, and according to military had been said by what means, and through whose but I treated them with silent neglect, relying had been subscribed by the collection of having received it. I then said Mr. Monroe's message at the opening of Con- to you,) was in fact, and according to military ken, and by what has been reviagency, this long gone-by affair has been reviin fact note of any kind after that beyond the tion which had so long existed between Gene- in fact none of any kind after that, beyond the king Pensacola, believed he was doing what of the correspondence from which I have ex- til rescinded. Such, certainly, was my opin-I have not taken this step, strictly defensive ral Jackson and myself, and the uniform and mere ordinary civilities of life. as it is, without mature deliberation, and a decided course which I had taken in his favor, calm and careful estimate of all the obligations in the political struggle then pending. My under which I act. That there are strong rea- support of him rested on a principle that I be sons against it, I feel and acknowledge; but I lieve to be fundamental in our political system, sacred obligation to vindicate my character, would afford the most effectual means of ar-

JOHN C. CALHOUN.

D. Newnan to him, covering copy of William H. Crawford's letter to Alfred Balch; Esq.

of Nashville, Tennessee, WASHINGTON, 27th January, 1829. DEAR Sin: I herewith enclose you the copy

pendence was a subject of conversation in ev- the harmonious and patriotic union of the two

such occasions, were, for the most part, guestsuch occasions, and guestsuch occasions, g

cation of my conduct and character. Believ- General Jackson, himself, must see and know

ing that further delay would be useless, I can the object of these shallow efforts. uniform supported General Jackson, from the those with whom I have been in the habits of I am not ignorant of the trying position in day that Pennsylvania declared in his favor to friendship, induces me to lay before you the length brought to light.

With respect and esteem, Your obedient servant. WILSON LUMPKIN.

Hon. J. C. CALHOUN.

and sacred obligation that I submit the whole addition to the letter which he wrote to you and I are both informed, that any ataffair to your determination, conscious that in this, as well as every other public transaction you, (and which has been seen by General sustained by you in the cabinet council, when, of my life, I have been actuated by a solemn Jackson,) he a short time since wrote a let- as is known to you, I was but executing the an opportunity. sense of duty to you, uninfluenced by fear, fa- ter to G. W. Campbell, proposing that Ten- wishes of the Government, and clothed with vor, or affection. I cannot but look forward to nessee should vote for a third person for the the authority to "conduct the war in the man-Vice Presidency, and requested Mr. Camp- ner I might judge best."

I owe it to myself to state, that I come be- bell to show the letter to Gen. Jackson. fore you under circumstances very painful to "I hope Mr. Calhoun will take the earliest enclosed you will please return to me. me, and a reluctance which nothing but a opportunity of seeing Gen. Jackson, and putsense of duty to you and myself could over- ting all things straight; for I cannot believe for

> to Alfred Balch, Esq. Woodlawn, 14th December, 1827.

what appeared to be indispensable. I have a public expression of my opinion on the ap- distinct recollection of what I said to you, but your attack on the Spanish posts in Florida. The intention of the Government to occupy the nions already formed, but to form opinions on not put even Mr. Crawford's statement of his proaching election to be propper. I cannot I am certain there is one error in your state- Under these impressions, you would seem to Spanish posts. By refering to it, you will see the course which the government ought to course in the Cabinet at issue, except only in- think a measure of this nature necessary or ment of that conversation to Mr. ——. I impute to me some degree of duplicity, or at that I enclosed to the Governor a copy of my pursue, after full and mature deliberation. cidentally, as bearing on his statement of mine. proper. In other words it appears to me recollect distinctly what passed in the cabinet least concealment, which required on my past It is no concern of roine, except in this inci- highly improper, and could hardly fail to meeting, referred to in your letter to Mr. —. explanation. I hope that my conception of ber, 1817, authorizing him to cross the Span- exchange of sentiment, in which doubts and dental way, what representation he may choose stamp the charge of intolerable arrogance upto give of his course, as to this subject, now or on me in indeliable characters. But few men was that General Jackson should be punished and your meaning be such as I suppose, I must limits of r'lorida, unless they should take shell it is, I conceive, the duty of the members thus formerly on whather the contracters are the contracters. But few men was that General Jackson should be punished and your meaning be such as I suppose, I must limits of r'lorida, unless they should take shell it is, I conceive, the duty of the members thus formerly, or whether his representation be cor- can ever expect to arrive at that height that in some form, or reprimanded in some f would justify a step of that kind, much less an am not positively certain which. As Mr. Cal- misapprehension, which, I feel confident, it was directed to report immediately to the De- support them by offering fully all of the argu-Before I conclude these prefatory observa- individual who lives in the most absolute retire- houn did not propose to arrest Gen. Jackson, will be in my power to correct by the most detions, I deem it proper to make a few addition- ment, and who has no ambition to emerge I feel confident that I could not have made cisive proof, drawn from the public documents." rected to consider as his authority for carry- take care not to form an opinion till all the of this more and mo- from it. I am perfectly reconciled to my situation, and would not willingly exchange it circumstances which transpired in the cabinet, and yourself, growing out of the decision of the lishing the fact that the order was considered ery doubt and objection carefully weighed.— The origin goes far back, beyond the date with Mr. Adams. But my opinions upon the as I have no recoilection of ever having deciber on the Seminole affair, which passed still in force, and not superseded by that to In this spirit I came into the meeting. The of the present correspondence, and had for its next Presidential election are generally known. signedly misstated any transaction in my life, through my hands at the time, and which I you, directing you to assume the command in questions involved were numerous and imporobject, not the advantage of General Jackson, When Mr. Van Buren and Mr. Cambreleng and most sincerely believe I never did. My now have his permission to use, as explanato- the Seminole war. which I leave you to interpret. The enmity upon every proper occasion to make those opiof Mr. Crawford to me, growing out of politi- ions known. The vote of the State of Georgia that meeting, an extract from a private correspondence be-

operate, and it was early directed against me, with the view of placing General Jackson and myself in our present relations. With that myself in our present relations. With that subject, is, that if Jackson myself in our present relations. With that subject, is, that if Jackson myself in our present relations. With that subject, is, that if Jackson myself in our present relations. With that the was triumphant myself in our present relations. With that subject, is, that if Jackson myself in our present relations. With that the subject, is, that if Jackson myself in our present relations. With that the subject, is, that if Jackson myself in our present relations. To save you the trouble of turning to the file of your corporation. It had the desired effect. It is a narrative of the measure and friendly to Mr. Calhoun, or by his directions. It had the desired effect. It is, that if Jackson became extreme the trouble of turning to the file of your corporation. To save you at our other trouble of turning to the file of your corporation. It had the desired effect. It is a narrative of the measure and friendly to Mr. Calhoun, or by his directions. It had the desired effect. It is, that the desired effect. It is a narrative of the measure and friendly to Mr. Calhoun, or by his directions. It had the desired effect. It is, that the calinous and Mr. Adams.

The only difficulty that this State if y defended by Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Adams.

The only difficulty that this State if y defended by Mr. Calhoun, or by his directions. It had the desired effect. It is, that the called in or a narrative of the measure and friendly to Mr. Calhoun, or by his directions. It had the desired effect. It is, that the called in or the trouble of turning to the file of your corporation. To save you at our or the trouble of urning to the file of your corporation. To save you at our or the trouble of urning to the file of your corporation. It had the desired effect. It is a narrative of the measure and friendly to Mr. Calhoun, or by his direction

I am, dear sir, your friend, .. And most obedient servant, WM. H. CRAWFORD.

tion was very different from what he states. the infliction of punishment upon the General, But it was not by private correspondence, right; and, in pursuing the course which I have When my name was withdrawn from the list who had considered the silence of the Presi- only, that the view which the Executive took done, I claim an equal right to act on the conof Presidential candidates, I assumed a per- dent as a tacit consent; yet it was after this of your orders was made known. In his mes- struction which I conceived to be correct, also feel the most thorough conviction that the and the hope that his deep rooted popularity feetly neutral position between Gen. Jackson letter was produced and read, that Mr. Caland Mr. Adams. I was decidedly opposed to houn made his proposition to the cabinet for 25th March, 1818, long before information of issuing the orders. But in waiving now the a congressional caucus, as both these gentle- punishing the General. You may show this the result of your operations in Florida, was question of the true construction of the orders, important incidents of my life, and to prove but foresee, if not arrested, would bring the mes were also, and as I bore very friendly letter to Mr. Calhoun, if you please. With received; Mr. Monroe states, that "orders I wish it however to be understood, it is only myself not unworthy of the high station to great interests of the country into a deep and personal and political relations to both, I would the foregoing corrections of what passed in had been given to the General in command because I do not think it presented by your lethave been very well satisfied with the election the cabinet, your account of it to Mr. - not to enter Florida, unless it be in pursuit ter, and not because I have now, or ever had, of either. When they were both returned to is correct. Indeed there is but one inaccura- of the enemy, and in that case, to respect the the least doubt of the correctness of the onicion the House of Representatives, I found myself cy in it, and one omission. What I have writ- Spanish authority, wherever it may be main- which I entertain. I have always been preparplaced in a new relation to them. I was elect- ten beyond them is a mere amplification of tained; and he will be instructed to withdraw ed to discuss it on friendly terms with you, as ed Vice President by the people, and a sense what passed in the cabinet. I do not know that his forces from the province, as soon as appears by the extracts from Mr. Monroe's enclosing extract of a letter from General of propriety forbade my interference in the I ever hinted at the letter of the General to the has reduced that tribe (the Seminoles) to correspondence, and more recently by my letelection in the House; yet I could not avoid President; yet that letter had a most impor- order, and secured our fellow citizens in that ter to you of the 30th of April, 1828, covering forming an opinion as to the principles that tant bearing upon the deliberations of the ca- quarter, by satisfactory arrangements against a copy of a letter of Major H. Lee, in which I ought to govern the choice of the House .- binet, at least in my mind, and possibly in the its unprovoked and savage hostilities in future." decline a correspondence that he had request-This opinion was early formed, long before I minds of Mr. Adams and the President; but In his annual message at the opening of Con- ed on the subject of the construction of your had the least intimation of the course of the neither expressed any opinion on the subject. gress in November of the same year, the Pre- orders. In my letter to Major Lee, I stated prominent individual referred to by Mr. Craw- It seems it had none upon the mind of Mr. Cal- sident, speaking of your entering Florida says, that, "as you refer to the public documents existence of the correspondence to a few confi- Daniel Newman, in whom I have great confi- ford, and was wholly independent of what houn; for it made no change in his conduct. dential friends, who were politically attached dence. I also give you an extract from my might be his course, or that of any other individual. What the principle is that in my had anything to apprehend from its disclosure, The great confidence and friendship which opinion ought to govern the House of Reprebut because I was unwilling to increase the ex- I have long entertained, and still entertain, for sentatives in the case of a contested election, isting excitement in the present highly critical General Jackson, as well as yourself, induce I leave to be inferred from my subsequent state of our public affairs. But when I arri- me to take the liberty of making this commu- course. So completely did my opinion depends sion. red here, late in December, I found my cau- nication to you. I am confident the best intering candidates before the House been revers ed, it would not have influenced my course in

CORRESPONDENCE General Andrew Jackson and John C Calhoun, President and Vice President of the

United States. MAY 13, 1830. correct, requires that it should be brought to the 13th May, 1918, where you state "Gener-

You can, if you please, take a copy: the one I am sir, very respectfully, Your humble servant, ANDREW JACKSON.

The Hon. J. C. CALHOUN. Copy of Mr. Crawford's letter to Mr. Forsyth,

enclosed in the above.

a ready and powerful instrument by which to given to Gen. Jackson, in opposition to Mr. which it was stated that I had proposed to ar- the Seminole campaign.

the Executive wished. After that letter was tracted so copiously, is intimately connected ion. I know that yours was different. You My course in relation to the point in ques- produced, unanswered, I should have opposed with the subject under consideration.

And most obedient servant, WM. H. CRAWFORD. Hon. JOHN FORSYTH. May 12, 1830.

Sin: Agreeable to some

receive a communication from me on the sub- tent. It is vested in Congress alone." The which the above is an extract "with you, ject to which it refers. In the mean time, I view taken of this subject met your entire ap- I cannot have the slighest objections to cannot repress the expression of my indigna- probation, as appears from the extract of your correspond on this subject if additional innot but express my gratification that the secret to. and mysterious attempts which have been ma-

J. C. CALHOUN.

To the PRESIDENT of the United States. inst, I wish to be distinctly understood, that roneous, and that you were of the impression I cannot pass over in silence. After announchowever high my respect is for your personal till you received Mr. Crawford's letter, that I ing your surprise at the contents of Mr. Crawcharacter, and the exalted station which you concurred in the opposite construction, which ford's letter, you ask whether the information occupy, I cannot recognise the right on your you gave to your orders, that they were intend- be correct, "under all of the circumstauces, part to call in question my conduct on the in- ed to authorize you to occupy the posts. You of which you and I are both informed, that teresting occasion to which your letter refers. rely for this impression, as I understand you, any attempt seriously to affect me was moved duct the war in the manner he may judge lacted, on that occasion, in the discharge of a best," and different too, from your letters to high official duty, and under responsibility to Governor Bibb, of Alabama, of the 13th of as is known to you, I was executing the wishme at that time, which breathe throughout a my conscience and my country only. In re- May, 1813, in which I state that "General es of the government." If by wishes, which spirit of approbation and friendship, and par- plying then to your letter, I do not place my- Jackson is vested with full powers to conduct you have underscored, it be meant that there ticularly the one in which you say, "I have self in the attitude of apologising for the part the war in the manner he shall judge best," was any intimation given by myself, directly, the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your I may have acted, or of palliating my conduct and also in my letter of the 8th February, 1818, or indirectly, of the desire of the government letter of the 20th ultimo, and to acquaint you on the accusation of Mr. Crawford. My in answer to yours of the 20th January of the that you should occupy the Spanish posts, so your suffrage places an individual in a high of- Extract of a letter from the Hon Daniel New- with the entire approbation of the President course, I trust, requires no apology, and if it same year, in which I acquainted you "with far from being "informed," I had not the nan to the Hon. Wilson Lumpkin, dated of all the measures you have adopted to termi- did, I have too much self respect to make it to the entire approbation of the President of all slightest knowledge of any such intimation, near Nashville, Tennessee 8th January, nate the rupture with the Indians." My ob- any one in a case touching the discharge of the measures you had adopted to terminate nor did I ever hear a whisper of any such be-1829, enclosing copy of a letter of Wm. H. ject in making this communication is to an- my official conduct. I stand on very different the rupture with the Seminole Indians." nounce to you the great surprise which is feit, ground. I embrace the opportunity which I will not reason the point, that a letter to tention to make a distinction between the "W. H. C. has done Mr. Calhoun a great and to learn of you whether it be possible that your letter offers, not for the purpose of mato withdraw that confidence without just cause. deal of injury, as well by his private machi- the information given is correct; whether it king excuses, but as a suitable occasion to place you, which bears date long after you had oc- ment, as I find no such distinction in your cor-It is under a profound regard for this mutual nations as his extensive correspondence. In can be, under all the circumstances of which my conduct in relation to an interesting pub-

> by impeaching yours. Where we have differ- that it was your intention by the extract to ment, in relation to the Spanish posts, were ed, I have no doubt that we differed honestly; show that, at the time of writing the letter, it not such as you assume them to be.

same to you. received by Sunday's mail, together with its war; and that you had been led to believe pre- before to the House of Representatives, (alrea- the extraordinary circumstances connected By the last mail I had the plea- enclosure. I recollect having conversed with viously, by my letters to yourself and Govern- dy referred to,) and which gives a directly op- with this corr, pondence.

After such full and decisive proof, as it granted that Mr. Monroe's correspondence ger, the submission of all the facts of the case yours, but what has constantly, zealously, and ways characterised me mough life, towards king by false insinuations, for years, for political ways characterised me mough life, towards king by false insinuations, for years, for political ways characterised me mough life, towards king by false insinuations, for years, for political ways characterised me mough life, towards king by false insinuations, for years, for political ways characterised me mough life, towards king by false insinuations, for years, for political ways characterised me mough life, towards king by false insinuations, for years, for political ways characterised me mough life, towards king by false insinuations, for years, for political ways characterised me mough life, towards king by false insinuations, for years, for political ways characterised me mough life, towards king by false insinuations, for years, for political ways characterised me mough life, towards king by false insinuations, for years, for political ways characterised me mough life, towards king by false insinuations, for years, for political ways characterised me mough life, towards king by false insinuations, for years, for political ways characterised me mough life, towards king by false insinuations, for years, for political ways characterised me mough life, towards king by false insinuations, for years, for yea you long since knew that the administration, tion which the Executive gave to your orders; and myself in particular, were of the opinion under which impression I remained till I rethat the orders under which you acted, did ceived your letter of the 13th inst. not authorize you to occupy the Spanish posts; Connected with the subject of your orders, WASHINGTON, 29th May, 1830. | but I now infer, from your letter, to which there are certain expressions in your letter, Sin: In answering your letter of the 13th this is in answer, that such conclusion was er- which, though I am at a loss to understand,

such an interpretation of the orders previously other European powers -a question, at that

Alfred Balch, Esq of Nashville, and is dated was well understood that he, Calhoun, was to Monroe to an inlimited support of what Gen. the whole subject. In your reply of the 19th the question, whether the Executive or yournet and brought the letter out. In it General vited you to open a correspondence with me, the power of the President, under the consti-Jackson approved of the determination of the that your conception of the meaning of your tution, to order the occupation of the posts of Government to break up Amelia island and orders, and that of the administration, might a nation with whom we were not at war, (what-Galveztown, and gave it also as his opinion be placed, with the reasons on both sides, on ever might be the right of the General, under that the Floridas ought to be taken by the U- the files of the War department. Your letter the law of nations, to attack an enemy shelter-A true and exact copy, (noted in the hand- nited States. He added, it might be a delicate of the 15th of November, in answer, agrees to ed under the posts of a neutral power;) and matter for the Executive to decide; but if the the correspondence as proposed, but declines had I been directed by the President to issue President approved of it, he had only to give commencing it, to which Mr. Monroe replied such order, I should have been restrained from * Mr. Crawford's assertion that he knew per- a hint to some confidential member of Con- by a letter of the 21st December, stating his complying by the higher authority of the conthe case, than by putting you in possession of ignorant and unsuspicious of these secret sonally what he here affirms, renders it proper to make a few remarks. How he could and take the responsibility upon himself. I why he thought it ought to commence with will I discuss the question whether the order to tween the views that we have respectively ta- tempts were making at Nashville to injure me, states, I am at a loss to understand. Our po- wered. He replied no; for that he had no re- your letter of the 7th December, approving the Spanish posts, (a copy of which was sent

> acted on your construction, believing it to be "on authorizing Major General Jackson to only for the construction which the Executive enter Florida, in pursuit of the Seminoles, gave to the orders, I infer that on this subject care was taken not to encroach on the rights you have not had access to the General's of Spain." Again: "In entering Florida to (Jackson's) private papers; but if I be in an suppress this combination, no idea was enter- error, and if the construction which the ad-A true copy from the original in my posses tained of hostility to Spain, and, however jus- ministration gave to the orders be not stated JOHN PORSYTH. tifiable the commanding General was, in con- with sufficient distinctness in the then Presisequence of the misconduct of the Spanish dent's correspondence with him, I will cherofficers, in entering St. Marks and Pensacola fully give, as one of the members of the ad-Washington 13th May, 1830. to terminate it, by proving to the save es, and ministration, my own views fully in relation to the protect to the orders, if it be desired by General Jack-

what he affirme he per note of the instant, handed to me this morning be altered by that act alone. By intering feel myself justified in corresponding on this were preserved. To a change of them the lie conduct:" to which I added, in my letter As soon as my lessure will permit, you shall power of the Executive is deemed incompe- to you, covering a copy of the letter from tion at the affair, while at the same time I can- letter, of 7th December, 1818, above referred formation be desirable." You expressed no desire for further information, and I took it for

In undertaking to place my conduct in its know that, in quoting the letters, you could the government" to be but another expression proper light, I deem it proper to premise that not intend such absurdity to authorize such for its orders, I must refer to the proof already it is very far from my intention to defend mine an inference; and I must therefore conclude offered, to show that the wishes of the govern-

and in claiming to act on honorable and patri- was my opinion that the orders under which Having, I trust, satisfactorily established otic motives myself, I cheerfully accord the you did act, were intended to authorize the that there has not been the least disguise as occupation of the Spanish posts. Nothing to the construction of your orders, I will now I know not that I correctly understood your could have been more remote from my inten- proceed to state the part which I took in the meaning, but after a careful perusal, I would tion in writing the letter. It would have been deliberations of the cabinet. My statement , infer from your letter that you had learned for in opposition to the view which I have always will be confined strictly to myself, as I do not the first time by Mr. Crawford's letter, that taken of your orders, and in direct contradic- feel myself justified to speak of the course of you and I placed different constructions on the tion to the President's message of the 25th the other members of the administration, and, My dear sir: Your letter of the 16th was order under which you acted in the Seminole March, 1818, communicated but a few weeks in fact, only of my own in self-defence, under

Nor can my letter of the 6th of February | ders; if so, what course ought to be adopted;