

Dr. Lii

Feb 27 - 1804.

Sometime in the ^{Spring} Summer of the year 1787 I accidentally went into the Office of ^{Alexander} General Hamilton where I found Joseph Strong (his then Clerk) ^{alone in the office above stairs} ~~making~~ making Copies of a Letter, which ^a upon my coming into the Office he endeavored to keep from my sight by covering them; This Design of Secrecy in Strong excited my Curiosity to see it and after exostulating with him he at length shewed me one of his Copies but without a signature, The Letter was written by a Gentleman then in London & Strong told me it was from our Ambassador at that place, ~~The substance of~~ to a Gentleman at Boston, The substance of the Letter was that overtures had been made ~~by~~ Gentlemen either by some of the Ministry or Gentlemen high in Confidence of Ministers (which I do not rightly recollect) ~~that in order to enable the Government of America to the Letter writer~~ that in order to strengthen the Bonds of friendship between ^{G. Britain} ~~that Country~~ & the United States and more firmly, G. Britain would cede over to the United ^{States} her Canadas Nova Scotia and all ~~her~~ other her Possessions & Territory in North America Upon the Express Condition that one of the Sons of the King of England (I think it mentioned the Bishop of Amaburgh The present Duke of York) ~~and his heirs should be the King of what would then be stated should be~~ acknowledged as the King ^{the whole of} ~~of North America~~, as it would then be of the whole of North America; The Letter writer ~~guess~~ thought it an Eligible Thing and wished the leading men in the United ^{States} attached to the then prevailing Federal ^{Political} ~~principles~~ might be consulted. The ~~Letter~~ Copies I understood from Strong were to be forwarded on the

~~The~~ ~~need~~ to particular Gentlemen in the Southern
States. As this ~~other~~ story was shown to me by story in
confidence, ~~of course~~ ~~meaning~~ and as I had ~~already~~ ~~left~~
myself studied with Mr Hamilton & had shortly before this
taken license and from my personal friendship ~~for the time~~
to Mr Hamilton at that time I for bore mentioning the
deed with which I had been entrusted, ^(in regard to the Queen) and said I do this
until ~~long~~ ~~for~~ ~~of the world~~, when it ^{became} ~~was~~ ~~consequently~~
necessary that Mr Hamilton had proposed in the

Convention in 1803 (a few weeks after I saw the ^{copy} ~~letter~~
 of the letter in question) ~~the~~ a contribution for the ^{United}
 States, the features of which were to have "being, &c."
 I then ~~these~~ was convinced that I had done wrong in not
 immediately ^{publicly} mentioning the copy of the letter I had seen
~~copy~~ in his Office, and ~~when I did mention it~~
~~it was to have I expected would not~~ I then mentioned
 it to some Gen. Hemen in Con. subject, ~~least~~ fearing
 a story was, ^{a common historical} under the influence of Hamilton that
 He would deny it & "Hamilton certainly would,"
 for the fault of that thing being generally known would
 ruin his propriety & damage his ^{future} prospects. And I not
 being able to substantiate it, ^{would then} ~~would~~ be accused as the
 'Gallinizer of the shell of the Federal Party' - among those
 to whom I mentioned this thing, was the Governor on Sunday in 1793. I have
 since it seems mentioned it to Judge Cady who a few days since
 in company when James Kane was, that Hamilton was in power at
 Maryland & that the Governor had seen a letter ~~from~~ which was
 copied in Hamilton's Office to that Effect, Kane immediately
 detailed this conversation with much exegesis to ^{Hamilton} ~~Judge Cady~~
 who called upon ~~some~~ Cady for an explanation who explained
 him to the Governor, to the friends now dead in - As I am in doubt
 in truth in this thing in the first instance. Cannot you or Miller who
 is friendly with Joseph Story have a conversation with him and