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## **Documents Online**

Title: Letters from Charles Nisbet to William Young, 1800-01

Date: 1800-1801

Location: MC 2001.5, B1, F11

### **Contact:**

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Dear Sir,

Carbifle, August 21 3, 1800.

I was lavoured with yours of Muly 14 th by Mr. Additon, but by the Want of an Opportunity, & the deep Imprepion of my privale afflictions, & of the gloomy afpect of public af. lain on my Spirits, I am learcely fit for any thing I am glad to hear that your City is thill health fuil, that it feems probable that the yellow sever is in Horfolk. The Coop in this Carl of the Country has been very plentiful, but I fear that the greatest Part of it. I mean of what will be exported, will lak into the hands of the French Republic one & indivisible. Our Arnbaffadon in France may probably get a Skin of Parchment, if the United States will give a few Millions of Dollars for it, but our haffels will not be more fafe than herelofere, from the Depredations of Sans Culose Privakens . But rechaps no Treaty will be made lit Mr. Tefferlow is prefident. The Succeptor of Buona parte in Italy, are bruly attenithing, but the Rows of his Defeat, brought from Leghorn, being quite general, do not ferm To be worthy of Coedil. The Emperor ferm to be es. ther out of his Senfer, or to be beloraged by his own Servants. These you read abbe Barmel's Memoirs of Macobinitur? Or do you read nothing but Thomas a Rempis? I was decyly con. vinces of the Vanity of the World, by hearing of the Death of Robert Campbell. I Juppele that Matthew Cary with success to the Jacobin Part of his Business. What is the Opinion of your Politicians with Respect to the approaching Election of a Befident? Will there be any Collibility of dilappointing Mr. Jefferson? I defpair indeed of this State, but it is Rith hoped that Maryland with Jurnith a low federal Electors. I never heard of the Arrival of the Hannah at Greenock, & have received no answers to the Schers I feal by her. What is the general Opinion with you, of the Probability of a War with Great Brilain? It is certain that the Jocaly is not executed, which must have bad confequences former or later. It is faid that your Friend the British Amballador is Hill in Virginia, but as he has been recalled, his Stay these can not be long. Please alk the Governor what is become of the Spanish Amballador. Mave we any remaining with as, except the Amballador from the Batavian Republic ? Thow does Mr. Pott's United Inith Congregation go on? Does Mr. Duane reqularly allend it? Mr. Marthal this kil probable that he may be returned an Elder to the next General Affembly, by the Philadelphia Befbylen, which Juppoles at least his attend. nce at that Meeting. you have been deceived in your Expectations respecting Maffena, I with that I may be descived in my Opinion of the Setters from Leghorn. Is Mr. Laboone's Machine yet in Blaft? He froms to be long in taning his Pipes. I tane many of them laid in May laft , but have never heard that they had begun to play . J. Juppole that Mr. Mcflorton has got a low Millions of Allignah from Buana parte la de-Iray the Expenses of his Election, & that the fund for redeeming the next Affignals that are iffaced, will be the Estates of the Arithocrales in this Country. I am afraid that The Expectations of those Speculators, who reckoned on the Importation of 60,000 Jacobins pour Ircland into this Country with not be wholly difappointed, as great Sheah of that Sort of Vermine, are daily poured in upon us. Seven Waggon Loads

of United Irifhman arrived have a fortnight go, & mall Delachmant on lool, an arriving daily. I and forry to hear that none of them intend to leave the Place. Mr. Burch has got over his Wife & lamily, & is felled in a most facation Congregations al Walkington. The new Jacobin Paper, which is to be conducted by Judge Breckenvidge, has not yet come out I Juppose that the Aurora has many Readers with you. It is the Rule of faith in this Part of the Country. I hear that the Implees of your Univertity have purchased the House intended for the President of the United States , which puts me in Mind of a Slory I have heard of our James the fifth. Taving med a neor Mighlandman coming out of a Markel, with a fine now Purfe ( you know that a Mighlandman's Ownfe makes a very comprisenous Part of his Dreps) the Wing a/hed him how much it coff him; Donald replied. a Mark, which was a great Sum at that time, but on being after how much Money he had in it he answered, a Plack. On which the thing lold him that it would have been better to have bad a Plack Durke & a Mark in it. Now I section that your University & it's Jacobin Jeachers , when they are Mationed in that Stately Building , will greatly refemble a Mark Stufe, with a Plack in the Bottom of it. What is to be done with the Congress that, & the Senate Chamber , which was takely enlarged to make a roomy Gallory for the Poillardes of your Markel? But as Mr. Jefferfon, on his Acception to the Office of Supreme Conful, will cartainly think proper to augment the tumber of Theatres in your City. as well as in other Places, after the Example of Paris, perhaps the Anataffaders may be ordered to bring over tweral dets of French Adors & Achrefoes for filling them. You did not mention in your dettor what is because of the French actrepos & Figure. Dancess, that Buonaparte look with him to Egypt, nor whether the Egyptian Ga. selle continues to be published at Cairo, under the Patronage of General Kleber. Hothing Amak me with more Nonder in reading abbe Barriel's Memoirs of Tacobinilm, than the great Suprime who & Regligence of the Powen of Europe with Report to the Ithuminati & German Union. It fears that they are appointed for Destruction, a under a Judicial Infolvation. One you acquainted with Mr. Dobbs, who declared in the Irith Moule of Commons that Christ would appear in less than two years. Perhaps by Chrift he only meant the dovering Reonte of France, as Roberpierse dit, who after tolemnly declaring & preaching the Existence of a Supreme Being, poor by the Saverign Ocople, rechaning them to be the Supreme Being. I have been thinking what must be The Preamble of our projected Treaty with France. I am fuse it will not be in the name of the boly & undivided Trinity, because that would fend Dr Orichley & all the other Jams Culote Philopophers. It must these for be in the Name of the Goddapes of diberty & Equality, Reafon & Obilolophy, & in the name of the terrible Republic of of France, now become one & indivisifier in the Perfon of his most Mufulman Majety, King - Clizen - General Alexander Buonaparte, When the Fronch conquesed Corfica

it is not probable that they supected that a confican would conquer France, but this the Age of Revolutions. Porhams Napper Jarody, if he get his Neck Hipp'd out of the Malton, on he has done once already, may expect that he will conquer Great Britain, as calily as Buona parte conquered Brance. and indeed it might be equally caty, if Dr. Briefley's British Republic were exceled, according to his Withes. The Examples of Geneva, Holland, Venice & switzerland afford ample Brook that there is nothing that is to capily kiched to Pieces to a Republice and what would become of our own , were it not for Citizen Duane , -Methean, Dallas, Logan & a few other Republican Characters who bear up the Pillans of it, it they thempelves may not be reckoned its chief Pillars? Perhaps lomeyour Philadel. phia Federalith may rather call them Calerpillans, but they must be acknowledged to be Oillans , whether you read the one way or the other . I hear that the cause of Liberty proppers exceedingly among you , on no lower than twenty two biminals have effected their Eleane from your Jail. So great an advantage is it for a state, to have a Governor who is a friend to diberty! While Mr. Cooper remains in the Jail, he will no doubt be preaching Liberty among his Tellow Prilonens, & may write Ellays for their Intruction, in Michoo you's Supporter, to that you may expect to hear of more Escapes in a thort lisne. These Jerms titurile to be a landable Bead for diverty in the Here Mail of New. York , which produced some ingorous Exertions not long ago . Had they a Cooper to preach to them a great Deal night suchaps be done for recovering their Liker. by Bill b/peak foriously, This Country & all others from at profent to be in a most pe vilous Situation, & if the Wolars of France are not hunted down by a Coalition of all The Christian Power, they will loon be Maplen of all Europe & America, & the Dominions theselo belonging. And how this is to be done appears to be as impossible at preford, as it would be to conceive or deferibe the Mileries to which the North would be exposed, if the French that be permitted to prevail in their Braject of Universal Dominion. I am afraid that very few Brayers are made among. us match it is for their Jacceps, but many & carnet Prayer ought to be made for their Dilappointment & Downfall, which ferm, to be necessary for the Rectionation of the set of the World, Gical Boilain must be in Danger from Infurrection, efficially if the Emprovor thous make another Treaty with France, & Britain be left alone to continue the War, & any Treaty that the French would propole at prefent, would be on the Jerms of unconditional Intermition, which would not on End to the government of America as well as to that of great Britain. These are fundry lafes of Fever in this Meighbourhood, chiefly of the intermittent kind , The hooping lough prevails among the Children , & leveral Children have died of it. I have Reafon to be thankful that I & my family thill enjoy a loterable State of Health, A Dijeafe, which they call the Staggers, prevails in Little york. Those who are feized with it, Juddenly become giddy & delinious, & die in a very thort time. I have not heard that any Perfor who has had it, has ever recovered. I remain with unfeigned Efferm,

your very humble Servant

Dear Sir.

Chai Nisbel.

#### Carlisle, August 21st 1800.

#### Dear Sir,

I was favoured with yours of July 17th by Mr. Addison, but by the Want of an Opportunity, & the deep Impression of my private Afflictions, & of the gloomy Aspect of public Affairs on my spirits, I am scarcely fit for any thing. I am glad to hear that your City is still healthful, tho' it seems probable that the yellow fever is in Norfolk. The crop in this Part of the Country has been very plentiful, but I fear that the greatest Part of it, I mean of what will be exported, will fall into the hands of the French Republic one & indivisible. Our Ambassadors in France may probably get a Skin of Parchment, if the United States will give a few Millions of Dollars for it, but our Vessels will not be more safe than heretofore, from the Depredations of Sans Culote Privateers. But perhaps no Treaty will be made till Mr. Jefferson is President. The Successes of Buona parte in Italy are truly astonishing, but the News of his Defeat, brought from Leghorn, being quite general, do not seem to be worthy of Credit. The Emperor seems to be either out of his Senses, or to be betrayed by his own Servants. Have you read Abbe' Barruel's Memoirs of Jacobinism? Or do you read nothing but Thomas á Kempis? I was deeply convinced of the Vanity of the World, by hearing of the Death of Robert Campbell. I suppose that Matthew Cary will succeed to the Jacobin Part of his Business. What is the Opinion of your Politicians with Respect to the approaching Election of a President? Will there be any Possibility of disappointing Mr. Jefferson? I despair indeed of this State, but it is still hoped that Maryland will furnish a few Federal Electors. I never heard of the Arrival of the Hannah at Greenock, & have received no Answers to the Letters I sent by her. What is the general Opinion with you, of the Probability of a War with Great Britain? It is certain that the Treaty is not executed, which must have bad Consequences sooner or later. It is said that your Friend the British Ambassador is still in Virginia, but as he has been recalled, his Stay there can not be long. Please ask the Governor what is become of the Spanish Ambassador. Have we any remaining with us, except the Ambassador of the Batavian Republic? How does Mr. Potts's United Irish Congregation go on? Does Mr. Duane regularly attend it? Mr. Marshal thinks it probable that he may be returned an Elder to the next General Assembly, by the Philadelphia Presbytery, which supposes at least his Attendance at that Meeting. You have been deceived in your Expectations respecting Massena. I wish that I may be deceived in my Opinion of the Letters from Leghorn. Is Mr. Latrobe's Machine yet in Blast? He seems to be long in tuning his Pipes. I saw many of them laid in May last, but have never heard that they had begun to play. I suppose that Mr. Jefferson has got a few Millions of Assignats from Buonaparte, to defray the Expenses of his Election, & that the fund for redeeming the next Assignats that are issued, will be the Estates of the Aristocrates in this Country. I am afraid that the Expectations of those Speculators, who reckoned on the Importation of 60,000 Jacobins from Ireland into this Country will not be wholly disappointed, as great Shoals of that Sort of Vermine, are daily poured in upon us. Seven Waggon Loads

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of United Irishmen arrived here a fortnight go, & small Detachments on foot, are arriving daily. I am sorry to hear that none of them intend to leave the Place. Mr. Burch has got over his Wife & family, & is settled in a most Jacobin Congregation at Washington. The new Jacobin Paper, which is to be conducted by Judge Breckenridge, has not yet come out. I suppose that the Aurora

has many Readers with you. It is the Rule of faith in this Part of the Country. I hear that the Trustees of your University have purchased the House intended for the President of the United States, which puts me in Mind of a Story I have heard of our James the fifth. Having met a poor Highlandman coming out of a Market, with a fine new Purse (You know that a Highlandman's Purse makes a very conspicuous Part of his Dress) the King asked him how much it cost him; Donald replied, a Mark, which was a great Sum at that time, but on being asked how much Money he had in it, he answered, a Plack. On which the King told him that it would have been better to have had a Plack Purse & a Mark in it. Now I reckon that your University & its Jacobin Teachers, when they are stationed in that Stately Building, will greatly resemble a Mark Purse with a Plack in the Bottom of it. What is to be done with the Congress Hall, & the Senate Chamber, which was lately enlarged to make a roomy Gallery for the Poissardes of your Market? But as Mr. Jefferson on his Accession to the Office of Supreme Consul, will certainly think proper to augment the Number of Theatres in your City as well as in other Places, after the Example of Paris, perhaps the Ambassadors may be ordered to bring over several Sets of French Actors & Actresses for filling them. You did not mention in your Letter what is become of the French Actresses & Figure Dancers, that Buonaparte took with him to Egypt, nor whether the Egyptian Gazette continues to be published at Cairo, under the Patronage of General Kleber. Nothing struck me with more Wonder in reading Abbe' Barruel's Memoirs of Jacobinism, than the great Supineness & Negligence of the Powers of Europe with Respect to the Illuminati & German Union. It seems they are appointed for Destruction, & under a Judicial Infatuation. Are you acquainted with Mr. Dobbs, who declared in the Irish House of Commons that Christ would appear in less than two Years. Perhaps by Christ he only meant the Sovereign People of France, as Robespierre did, who after solemnly declaring & preaching the Existence of a Supreme Being, swore by the Sovereign People, reckoning them to be the Supreme Being. I have been thinking what must be the Preamble of our projected Treaty with France. I am sure it will not be in the Name of the holy & undivided Trinity, because that would offend Dr. Priestley & all the other Sans Culote Philosophers. It must therefore be in the Name of the Goddesses of Liberty & Equality, Reason & Philosophy, & in the Name of the terrible Republic of France, now become one & indivisible in the Person of his most Musulman Majesty, King - Citizen - General Alexander Buonaparte. When the French conquered Corsica

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it is not probable that they suspected that a Corsican would conquer France, but this is the Age of Revolutions. Perhaps Napper Tandy, if he gets his Neck slipp'd out of the Halter, as he has done once already, may expect that he will conquer Great Britain, as easily as Buonaparte conquered France. And indeed it might be equally easy, if Dr. Priestley's British Republic were erected, according to his Wishes. The examples of Geneva, Holland, Venice & Switzerland afford ample Proofs that there is nothing that is so easily kicked to Pieces as a Republic. And what would become of our own, were it not for Citizen Duane, McKean, Dallas, Logan & a few other Republican Characters, who bear up the Pillars of it, if they themselves may not be reckoned its chief Pillars? Perhaps some of your Philadelphia Federalists may rather call them Caterpillars, but they must be acknowledged to be Pillars, whether you read the one way or the other. I hear that the Cause of Liberty prospers exceedingly among you, as no fewer than twenty two Criminals have effected their Escape from your Jail. So great an Advantage is it for a State, to have a Governor who is a friend to Liberty! While Mr. Cooper remains in the Jail, he will no

doubt be preaching Liberty among his Fellow-Prisoners, & may write Essays for their Instruction, in Nicholson's Supporter, so that you may expect to hear of more Escapes in a short time. There seems likewise to be a laudable Zeal for Liberty in the New Jail of New York, which produced some vigorous Exertions not long ago. Had they a Cooper to preach to them, a great Deal might perhaps be done for recovering their Liberty. But to speak seriously, this Country & all others seem at present to be in a most perilous Situation, & if the Wolves of France are not hunted down by a Coalition of all the Christian Powers, they will soon be Masters of all Europe & America, & the Dominions thereto belonging. And how this is to be done appears to be as impossible at present, as it would be to conceive or describe the Miseries to which the World would be exposed, if the French shall be permitted to prevail in their Project of Universal Dominion. I am afraid that very few Prayers are made among us unless it is for their Success, but many & earnest Prayers ought to be made for their Disappointment & Downfall, which seems to be necessary for the Preservation of the rest of the World. Great Britain must be in Danger from Insurrection, especially if the Emperor should make another Treaty with France, & Britain be left alone to continue the War, & any treaty that the French would propose at present, would be on the Terms of unconditional Submission, which would put an end to the Government of America as well as to that of Great Britain. There are sundry Cases of Fever in this Neighbourhood, chiefly of the intermittent kind. The hooping Cough prevails among the Children, & several Children have died of it. I have Reason to be thankful that I & my family still enjoy a tolerable State of Health. A Disease, which they call the Staggers, prevails in Little York. Those who are seized with it, suddenly become giddy & delirious, & die in a very short time. I have not heard that any Person who has had it, has ever recovered. I remain with unfeigned Esteem,

> Dear Sir, Your very humble servant

> > Chas. Nisbet.

Dear Sir,

# Cartifle, 10 the Dec" 1801.

I was favoured tome time ago with yours by Mr. Pringle. & I was informed more lately by Mr. Turnbull that you had fold your Ship to good Accompt. & in good time, having had the Sagacity to forefee the Peace in Europe, which I confep I did not forefee, I am full of Apprehension both for Great Britain & America on this Decasion, & fear that both of them have already ben their best Days, the his Excellency the Governor calls the prefent the most sufficient Time for America, allesding probably to the great Humber of our Ships that have been taken by the Spaniards, by the Command & Direction of Buona parte. The French having now no other the for their Flech & armies, may probably lend over a Part of them to America. to affift Mr. Jefferfon in purifying our Conflitution, & perfecting our Republicanifm, by the Introduction of a first Conful. Il will literwife be necessary to accustom our People to pay Initule to the great Balion, & to be subject to Requisitions, as well as the Balavian Republic, & all the other free Republics which the French have created in Europe. This will infpire them with a Love of Liberty, & enable them as I think the Governor Jays, to improve their Kepulti can Syttems . The helurn of the Armies to France , or the diffording of them , would be equalby talab to the Interests of Buona parts, to that he maps difpole of them elfewhere, for his own Safely, a part of them perhaps may be feat into Spain, for the Purpose of Beachebionijing & republicanifing that Country , which feems to be ripe for it , & a confiderable Part of both their Fled & Armies may be fent to the United States for promoting the lawfe of diberty. This Country will be as convenient a Rebreat for them as Egypt, with this Addition, that they will need no Reinforcements or Supplies , as they will live at the Expense of the United States logether with occasional Requisitions . Our Governor has informed the Legislature, how dili. gent he has been in providing Arms for them, & hopes that the remaining half will ready this Winter , loom which I infor that they are expected early nevel Spring. The other Gover. nors will no doubt be equally active. I am proched at the Reception of Buona parte's aid de lamp, by the Mob of London, & the feandalow, Illuminations that look Place after. wards , which give Beaton to Supper that the English Mob are compleadly laws-culotif ?? , It hope that this " leave will be an Intraduction to a Revolution . I dread to hear of the public Rejoicings at the Conclusion of the Ocace, as the Sans-culoles may probably fize that Time of Security & Diffination, for murdering the Ring & Royal Family, & making thempelves Matters of the Jower & City of London. The molt horid & alrocious Actions may be juffly dreaded from Men totally devoit of Principle. And as the French have difbanded none of their Forces , they might your their Those and, I len thousands into Great Britain in perfect Safely, to complete the Buin & Subjection of that Kingdows. Which may God in his great Mercy prevent. The putting up the Picture of Buona parte, with the blapphemous Inforighion of "Javiour of the Univerle, indicates a great Corruption in the Regple of London. Our Friend Peter Porcupine has been very roughly handled, & even worke breaked than he was by Dr. Reeth & his there, but he will receiver large

Damages from the fity of London. The anful Storm of Thunder & Lightening, which ac-comp aried this landalous Illuminations appears to me to be a manifelt Jeftimony of the Wrath of God againft the Briligh Mation, & a Denunciation of more terrible Calamilies in forme I I wonder how the Friand, of the French Jocaty could confider it as a Tellion ony of Approbation. But the Day will declare which Side was in the right. I lear that the Sun of Great Britain is fel, to rife no more. and when we confider the great Prevalence of Infidelity, Orofanchelp & Impicty in that Country, we aught not to be from. profed if it thould be vifiled with terrible fudgements . And who can fay that America is innoccul, or any thing like it? I hear that the one half of the litizens of Ken. Tucky are projep'd Infidelo, & how large a Proportion of these are to be found in the other States, none can tay . I heard that Mr. Armptrong had preached once to a congregation that confitted wholly of profets I Infidels, a terrible Situation to a Minifler of Chrift' I Juppole that your Payer have given you an account of the Strange Work in Kenlucky, in a Scher from Col. Robert Paterfon to Dr. John Hing, which was published in a Chamberburgh Paper, & sepublished here. The Paroxypon of Conversion in Some begins it with the feel . Enthusiafm & Infide. lity seem to keep lace with each other, but the Religion seems to be declining every where I hear nothing of the Effects of the Clace in your lity , but very thing is laid to have become cheaper in Ballimore, the no Article, except the Wheat has fallen in Price here. The Infleer of this College have done me the human to take one Hundred & Sixteen Pounds from my Salary & refinded their former Contract by their own Authority as Soversign People. diberty, you fee, is the Order of the Day among us, I when the French are come over, they will introduce Equality. The Mallacres that are renewed in S. Damingo, will probably frighten away the Remainder of the Whiles & lill this Country with Shoah of Frenchman, which will increase the Comption of Morals , as with as the spiril of Sedition , already low high among us , as it has figed the Government & the chief Offices . The Liberty of the Orch Jecus to be really well established by the Adions against Wayne & other federal Printen, & by the time that the French come over, we may expect to hear of the Scaling up all the Asipoeratic Preper in the United States. The Jame Befinch from to be going on in Georgia . The Hen England Pallasium with probably be the last Paper that will be pappreped. I with that it may be lawful to print Bibles . Perhaps the French may permit this , in order to have Copies to burn at the Ammual Feep of the Afe, which will perhaps be intro. duced into this loundry , & enjoined by Authority. This you will fay is improbable, the' cortainly not more improbable than forme things that have happened already. for Inflance the Burning of the Bible in the Jown of Dundes, during the take

Commotions in Scotland. The Members of the Legiplatere of Rhode Illand have made a noble Stand for Liberty, by refilling the Motion for appointing a Day of Thanksgiving , for which they will be admised by all over Democrates , & perhaps diffin quithest by fome favour from Buonaparte. I was surprifed that in the Capitulation of lairs & Alexandria, no Mention was made of the great Bumbers of Georgian & Lircapian Women, that the French fized when they plundered the Marcuns of the Mamaluker. They were declared to belong to the Great Mation, & I expected to fee an Article flipsitating that they thould be fail to France, & delivered to the So. verige Resple, to be divided among them as they thould think proper. I pappage that the Opera Dances , the originally belonging to the French Republic , have at. seady become privale Property, & are comprehended in that Article. Have you beard of any Publications in England that are worth Hobice? Hothing fame to be minded except Politics, & these of the very worth hind. Ocher Porcupsine mult now be contented to be an Antiminiflerial Writer, & may possibly bring himfell to lome bouble on that account. The Norder is pelject to thrange changes. But I lear that Mr. Duane will not form be an oppoper of administration, as he has got the Monopoly of Slamp' I Paper. I believe it will no longer be in my Power, in my reduced Situation, lo vipil you as Philadelphia, but as you are now at your Ease, I would be glad to see you when you make a Vipil to Mr. Nefferton at the Federal City. It would not be much out of your Way to se. burn by Carhille. you have not yet feen Cilizen Pichon, who is all that we have for a French Ambafrador at prefent. The French Treaty will foor be laid before Con. gach, & the appropriations that will be necessary for camping it into Execution, will probably be prelly high, as befides the Repairs of the lorvete Borgeon, the Delention of the Semithante Frigale at Korfolk, & the Wages of Mep." Dawfor & Apple Ion for carrying the Treaty, the French may charge a confiderable Sum for the Trouble they have taken in fizing to many of our Ships, & the Esquence increased by carrying them into the Ports of the Great Mation . Mr. Gathatin will no doubt be of opinion that we night to comply with all these Demands , because it may coll us more to fight them. My Daughter will I hope be in Philadelphia, be for you receive this, as the fet and Methersay by the Way of Marris bargh. I beg you would get the inclosed delivered by a lafe hand. I am, with Eleem, Dear Sir, your very humble Servant

tha." Nisbel.

#### Carlisle, 10th Decr. 1801.

#### Dear Sir,

I was favoured some time ago with yours by Mr. Pringle, & I was informed more lately by Mr. Turnbull that you had sold your Ship to good Accompt, & in good time, having had the Sagacity to foresee the Peace in Europe, which I confess I did not foresee. I am full of Apprehensions both for Great Britain & America on this Occasion, & fear that both of them have already seen their best Days, tho' his Excellency the Governor calls the present the most auspicious Time for America, alluding probably to the great Numbers of our Ships that have been taken by the Spaniards, by the Command & Direction of Buonaparte. The French having now no other Use for their Fleet & Armies, may probably send over a Part of them to America, to assist Mr. Jefferson in purifying our Constitution, & perfecting our Republicanism, by the Introduction of a first Consul. It will likewise be necessary to accustom our People to pay Tribute to the great Nation, & to be subject to Requisitions, as well as the Batavian Republic, & all the other free Republics which the French have erected in Europe. This will inspire them with a Love of Liberty. & enable them as I think the Governor says, to improve their Republican Systems. The Return of the Armies to France, or the disbanding of them, would be equally fatal to the Interests of Buonaparte, so that he must dispose of them elsewhere, for his own Safety. A part of them perhaps may be sent into Spain, for the Purpose of Revolutionising & republicanising that Country, which seems to be ripe for it, & a considerable Part of both their Fleet & Armies may be sent to the United States for promoting the Cause of Liberty. This Country will be as convenient a Retreat for them as Egypt, with this Addition, that they will need no Reinforcements or Supplies, as they will live at the Expence of the United States, together with occasional Requisitions. Our Governor has informed the Legislature, how diligent he has been in providing Arms for them, & hopes that the remaining half will be ready this Winter, from which I infer that they are expected early next Spring. The other Governors will no doubt be equally active. I am shocked at the Reception of Buonaparte's Aid de Camp, by the Mob of London, & the scandalous Illuminations that took Place afterwards, which give Reason to suspect that the English Mob are compleatly Sans-culotit'd, & hope that this Peace will be an Introduction to a Revolution. I dread to hear of the public Rejoicings at the Conclusion of the Peace, as the Sans-culotes may probably seize that Time of Security & Dissipation, for murdering the King & Royal Family, & making themselves Masters of the Tower & City of London. The most horrid & atrocious Actions may be justly dreaded from Men totally devoid of Principle. And as the French have disbanded none of their Forces, they might pour their Thousands & ten thousands into Great Britain in perfect Safety, to complete the Ruin & Subjection of that Kingdom. Which may God in his great Mercy prevent. The putting up the Picture of Buonaparte, with the blasphemous Inscription of "Saviour of the Universe," indicates a great Corruption in the People of London. Our Friend Peter Porcupine has been very roughly handled, & even worse treated than he was by Dr. Rush & his Jury, but he will recover large

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Damages from the City of London. The awful Storm of Thunder & Lightening, which accompanied this scandalous Illumination, appears to me to be a manifest Testimony of the Wrath of God against the British Nation, & a Denunciation of more terrible Calamities in future

& I wonder how the Friends of the French Treaty would consider it as a Testimony of Approbation. But the Day will declare which Side was in the right. I fear that the Sun of Great Britain is set, to rise no more. And when we consider the great Prevalence of Infidelity, Profaneness & Impiety in that Country, we ought not to be surprised if it should be visited with terrible Judgements. And who can say that America is innocent, or any thing like it? I hear that the one half of the Citizens of Kentucky are profess'd Infidels, & how large a Proportion of these are to be found in the other States, none can say. I heard that Mr. Armstrong had preached once to a Congregation that consisted wholly of profess'd Infidels, a terrible Situation to a Minister of Christ! I suppose that your Papers have given you an Account of the strange Work in Kentucky, in a Letter from Col. Robert Paterson to Dr. John King, which was published in a Chambersburgh Paper, & republished here. The Paroxysm of Conversion in some begins with the feet. Enthusiasm & Infidelity seem to keep Pace with each other, but true Religion seems to be declining every where. I hear nothing of the Effects of the Peace in your City, but every thing is said to have become cheaper in Baltimore, tho' no Article, except the Wheat has fallen in Price here. The Trustees of this College have done me the honour to take one Hundred & Sixteen Pounds from my Salary & rescinded their former Contract by their own Authority as Sovereign People. Liberty, you see, is the Order of the Day among us, & when the French are come over, they will introduce Equality. The Massacres that are renewed in St. Domingo, will probably frighten away the Remainder of the Whites & fill this Country with Shoals of Frenchmen, which will increase the Corruption of Morals, as well as the Spirit of Sedition, already too high among us, as it has seized the Government & the chief Offices. The Liberty of the Press seems to be pretty well established by the Actions against Wayne & other federal Printers, & by the time that the French come over, we may expect to hear of the Sealing up all the Aristocratic Presses in the United States. The same Business seems to be going on in Georgia. The New England Palladium will probably be the last Paper that will be suppressed. I wish that it may be lawful to print Bibles. Perhaps the French may permit this, in order to have Copies to burn at the Annual Feast of the Ass, which will perhaps be introduced into this Country, & enjoined by Authority. This you will say is improbable, tho' certainly not more improbable than some things that have happened already, for Instance the Burning of the Bible in the Town of Dundee, during the late

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Commotions in Scotland. The Members of the Legislature of Rhode Island have made a noble Stand for Liberty, by resisting the Motion for appointing a Day of Thanksgiving, for which they will be admired by all our Democrates, & perhaps distinguished by some favour from Buonaparte. I was surprised that in the Capitulation of Cairo & Alexandria, no Mention was made of the great Numbers of Georgian & Circassian Women, that the French seized when they plundered the Harems of the Mamalukes. They were declared to belong to the Great Nation, & I expected to see an Article stipulating that they should be sent to France, & delivered to the Sovereign People, to be divided among them as they should think proper. I suppose that the Opera Dancers, tho' originally belonging to the French Republic, have already become private Property, & are comprehended in that Article. Have you heard of any Publications in England that are worth Notice? Nothing seems to be minded except Politics, & these of the very worst kind. Peter Porcupine must now be contented to be an Antiministerial Writer, & may possibly bring himself to some trouble on that Account. The World is subject to strange Changes. But I fear that Mr. Duane will not soon be an Opposer of Administration, as he has got the Monopoly of Stamp'd Paper. I believe it will no longer be in my Power, in my reduced Situation, to visit you at Philadelphia, but as you are now at your Ease, I would be glad to see you, when you make a Visit to Mr. Jefferson at the Federal City. It would not be much out of your way to return by Carlisle. You have not yet seen Citizen Pichon, who is all that we have for a French Ambassador at present. The French Treaty will soon be laid before Congress, & the Appropriations that will be necessary for carrying it into Execution, will probably be pretty high, as besides the Repairs of the Corvette Borgeau, the Detention of the Semittante Frigate at Norfolk, & the Wages of Messrs. Dawson & Appleton for carrying the Treaty, the French may charge a considerable Sum for the Trouble they have taken in seizing so many of our Ships, & the Expence incurred by carrying them into the Ports of the Great Nation. Mr. Gallatin will no doubt be of Opinion that we ought to comply with all these Demands, because it may cost us more to fight them. My Daughter will I hope be in Philadelphia, before you receive this, as she set out Yesterday by the Way of Harrisburgh. I beg you would get the inclosed delivered by a safe hand. I am, with Esteem,

Dear Sir, Your very humble Servant

Chas. Nisbet.