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Title: Letter from John Dickinson to Caesar Augustus RodneyDate: November 16, 1807Location: MC 2001.13, B1, F4

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Searlessor,

The President's preach warsonised, for which I thank thee. Thy hitter of the minth is now the fore the. The infalmates Arolicy of Aritam has places her in fush aposition, that the Jeans to think has after repends on Hostility orgainst the world. Porhops it does. If the is to fall in the Contest, She will go down with a hemendow Grash, and deadful him to many others. What, in this Conisis of Difficulties com way withfor? Hordestruction? Then the Domination of

hame will be established for ages locome. Her Friumph? Then hor molence will be mady on trageno

With and Momentanie

Anlly convinced as Sam, that harmeaning at universal Impire, and that the art of the Tragedy relating to the, is to tended to function the fener now paping in larope, a Question of great

Sturninglyes from the Object, wither as Some for more than fifty years of Aritikholey. At present, let in propare a smell and arguichly a stre can, against the most in minut langer. Weanghe, among other Things, tohave to or 20 Gun boats in the belaware. Afrigle Vefelmight plunder hewlaute and this lown. hola moment hand the lost, in granding again furtherents; Sam thy huely affection ate homenos Tom Sich in 100p Willington in Certistation of the manual the Boy the is Month 1807 males anima white at ton manual in from any and that the ast of the hougeby allating to have its landes to fundar They mous graping interopy, a Levelton of gran With and Momenta

[Wilmington, November 16, 1807]

Dear Ceasar,

The President's speech was received, for which I thank thee.

Thy Letter of the ninth is now before Me.

The infatuated Policy of Britain has placed her in such a position, that she seems to think her safety depends on Hostility against the World. Perhaps it does. If she is to fall in the Contest, she will go down with a tremendous Crash, and dreadful Ruin to many others. What, in this Crisis of Difficulties can We wish for? Her Destruction? Then the Domination of France will be established for ages to come. Her Triumph? Then her Insolence will be madly outrageous.

Fully convinced as I am that France aims at Universal Empire, and that the Act of the Tragedy relating to us, is intended to succeed the scenes now passing in Europe, a Question of "great Pith and Moment" arises-

[Page Break]

I turn my Eyes from the Object, witness as I am for more than fifty Years of British Folly. At present, let us prepare as well and as quickly as we can, against the most imminent

Dangers. We ought, among other Things, to have 15 or 20 Gunboats in the Delaware.

A single Vessel might plunder and burn New Castle and this Town. Not a Moment should be lost, in guarding against such Events.

I am thy truely affectionate Friend

John Dickinson

Wilmington the 16th of the 11th Month 1807