

Jeffersonian Republican.

THE WHOLE ART OF GOVERNMENT CONSISTS IN THE ART OF BEING HONEST.—Jefferson.

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Poem by John Q. Adams.

Correspondence of the Albany Evening Journal.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 31, 1841.

John Quincy Adams is one of the intellectual prodigies whose characters distinguish eras of time.

Mr. Adams is now 74 years old. But years have made no impression upon his intellect.—That is still fresh and vigorous. He is, as has been so frequently stated, always in his seat; always watching the course of business, and always ready to shed light upon the question before the House.

The Hon. Mr. Morgan, whose seat is next to that of Mr. Adams, has obtained for me, with permission to publish in the Journal, a copy of the Poem which I enclose. It was written in July, 1840, under these circumstances. Gen. Ogle informed Mr. Adams that several young ladies in his district had requested him to obtain Mr. A's Autograph for them. In accordance with this request, Mr. Adams wrote the following beautiful Poem upon "The Wants of Man," each stanza upon a sheet of Note Paper. What American young lady would not set a precious value upon such an autograph from this illustrious statesman—

The Wants of Man.

"Man wants but little here below,
Nor wants that little long."

Goldsmith's Hermit.

I.

"Man wants but little here below,
Nor wants that little long."
'Tis not with me exactly so—
But 'tis so in the song.
My wants are many, and if told
Would muster many a score;
And were each wish a mint of gold,
I still should long for more.

II.

What first I want is daily bread,
And canvass back and wine;
And all the realms of nature spread
Before me when I dine—
Four courses scarcely can provide
My appetite to quell,
With four choice cooks from France beside,
To dress my dinner well.

III.

What next I want at heavy cost,
Is elegant attire;
Black saole furs for winter's frost,
And silks for summer's fire,
And cashmere shawls and Brussels lace
My bosoms front to deck;
And diamond rings my hands to grace;
And rubies for my neck.

IV.

And then I want a mansion fair,
A dwelling house, in style,
Four stories high, for wholesome air,
A massive marble pile;
With halls for banquets and for balls
All furnished rich and fine;
With stabled studs in fifty stalls,
And cellars for my wine;—

V.

I want a garden and a park
My dwelling to surround,
A thousand acres, (bless the mark)
With walls encompass'd round,
Where flocks may range and herds may low,
And kids and lambskin play;
And flowers and fruits commingl'd grow
All Eden to display.

VI.

I want, when summer's foliage falls,
And autumn strips the trees,
A house, within the city's walls
For comfort and for ease—
But here as space is somewhat scant
And acres rather rare,
My house in Town I only want
To occupy—a Square.

VII.

I want a Steward, Butler, Cooks,
A Coachman, Footman, Grooms;
A library of well bound books,
And picture garnished rooms,
Corregios, Magdalen and Night,
The Matron of the chair,
Guido's fleet coursers in their flight
And claudes at least a pair.

VIII.

Ay! and to stamp my form and face
Upon the solid rock,
I want, their lineaments to trace,
Carrara's milk white block;
And let the chisel's art sublime,
By GREENOUGH'S hand display,
Through all the range of future time,
My features to the day.

IX.

I want a cabinet profuse
Of medals, coins and gems;
A printing press for private use
Of fifty thousand *ems*,
And plants and minerals and shells,
Worms, insects, fishes, birds;
And every beast on earth that dwells,
In solitude or herds.

X.

I want a board of burnish'd plate,
Of silver and of gold,
Tureens of twenty pounds in weight
With sculpture's richest mould,
Plateaus with chandeliers and lamps,
Plates, dishes, all the same,
And Porcelain vases with the stamps
Of Sevres, Angouleme.

XI.

And maples of fair glossy stain
Must form my chamber doors,
And carpets of the Wilton grain
Must cover all my floors.
My walls with tapestry be deck'd
Must never be outdone;
And damask curtain must protect
Their colors from the sun.

XII.

And mirrors of the largest pane
From Venice must be brought;
And scandal wood and bamboo-cane
For chairs and tables bought,
On all the mantel pieces, clocks
Of thrice gilt bronze must stand,
And screens of ebony and box
Invite the stranger's hand.

XIII.

I want—(who does not want?)—a wife,
Affectionate and fair;
To solace all the woes of life,
And all its joys to share.
Of temper sweet—of yielding will,
Of firm, yet placid mind;
With all my faults to love me still,
With sentiments refin'd.

XIV.

And as Time's car incessant runs
And Fortune fills my store;
I want of daughters and of sons
From eight to half a score.
I want, (alas! can mortal dare
Such bliss on earth to crave?)
That all the girls be chaste and fair—
The boys all wise and brave.

XV.

And when my bosom's darlings sing
With melody divine,
A pedal harp of many strings,
Must with her voice combine.
A piano, exquisitely wrought
Must open stand, apart;
That all my daughters may be taught
To win the stranger's heart.

XVI.

My wife and daughters will desire
Refreshment from perfumes,
Cosmetics for the skin require
And artificial blooms.
The Civet, fragrance shall dispense
And treasur'd sweets return;
Cologne revive the flagging sense
And smoking amber burn.

XVII.

And when, at night, my weary head
Begins to droop and dose
A southern chamber holds my bed
For nature's soft repose;
With blankets, counterpane and sheet;
Mattress and bed of down,
And comfortables for my feet,
And pillows for my crown.

XVIII.

I want a warm and faithful friend
To cheer the adverse hour;
Who ne'er to flatter will descend
Nor bend the knee to power.
A friend to chide me when I'm wrong,
My inmost soul to see;
And that my friendship proves as strong
For him, as his for me.

XIX.

I want a kind and tender heart,
For others' wants to feel;
A soul secure from Fortune's dart,
And bosom arm'd with steel.
To bear divine chastisement's rod
And mingling in my plan,
Submission to the will of God
With charity to Man.

XX.

I want a keen, observing eye;
An ever listening ear;
The truth through all disguise to spy,
And wisdom's voice to hear.
A tone to speak at virtue's need
In Heaven's sublimest strain;
And lips the cause of Man to plead,
And never plead in vain.

XXI.

I want uninterrupted health
Throughout my long career;
And streams of never failing wealth
To scatter far and near,
The destitute to clothe and feed,
Free bounty to bestow;

Supply the helpless orphan's need
And soothe the widow's woe.

XXII.

I want the genius to conceive,
The talents to unfold
Designs, the vicious to retrieve;
The virtuous to uphold.
Inventive power, combining skill;
A persevering soul,
Of human hearts to mould the will
And reach from Pole to Pole.

XXIII.

I want the seal of power and place,
The ensigns of command;
Charged by the People's unbought grace,
To rule my native land—
Nor crown, nor sceptre would I ask
But from my country's will,
By day, by night, to ply the task
Her cup of bliss to fill.

XXIV.

I want the voice of honest praise
To follow me behind;
And to be thought in future days
The friend of human kind,
That after ages as they rise
Exulting may proclaim
In chorul unio to the skies.
Their blessings of my name.

XXV.

These are the wants of mortal man,
I cannot want them long;
For life itself is but a span
And earthly bliss a song.
My last great want absorbing all
Is, when beneath the sod,
And summons to my final call;
The mercy of my God.

XXVI.

And oh! while circles in my veins
Of life the purple stream;
And yet a fragrant small remains
Of nature's transient dream;
My soul, in humble hope unscar'd
Forget not thou to pray,
That this thy want may be prepared
To meet the judgment day.

"Ma, ain't Joe Smith a courtin' our Meley?"

"No; what makes you think so?"

"Why, always when he comes near her she sorter leans up to him like a pig to a warm lamb."

"There, Alley, go and bring in some chips."

There is a young lady in Connecticut so modest that she puts brandy into her water because she is ashamed to touch the NAKED element!—*Boston Post.*

MY OLD COAT.—It is better to turn the old coat, said my aunt Prudence, than to run in debt for a new one. But see, replied I, there is a hole in it! Never mind that said she, put in a patch, a patch upon the sleeve, is better than a writ upon the back.

The Post thinks the best contrivance for keeping people awake in church, is a clergyman who is wide awake himself.

The printing for the 25th Congress, 1838-9, amounted to \$217,684 44. No wonder the Globe kicks so viciously at the new administration. It's enough to make such a man "strike his father."

American Love of Occupation.

There is probably no people on earth with whom business constitutes pleasure, and industry amusement, in an equal degree with the inhabitants of the United States of America. Active occupation is not only the principal source of their happiness and the foundation of their national greatness, but they are absolutely wretched without it. Business is the very soul of an American; he pursues it not merely as a means of procuring for himself and family the necessary comforts of life, but as the fountain of all human felicity. From the earliest hour in the morning until late at night the streets are thronged by men of all trades and professions, each following his own vocation, as if he never dreamed of a cessation from labor or the possibility of becoming fatigued. Neither is this hurry of business confined to the large cities; it communicates itself in every village and hamlet and extends to and penetrates the western forests. It is as if all America were but one gigantic work-shop, over the entrance of which there is the blazing inscription, "No entrance except on business."—English writer.

A GOOD TOAST.—At a late agricultural dinner in Massachusetts, the following toast was given:

"The game of fortune: shuffle the cards as you will, Spades will always win."

Seventeen hundred and ninety-one dogs have been killed in New York, since the 5th of June.

The Woollen Factory of Mr. Jessop at Berwick, Pa. was burned on the 7th. Loss \$3,000.

From the National Intelligencer.

The Letters of Resignation.

The following letters of the Secretary of the Treasury and the Attorney General, resigning their respective trusts, have been placed in our hands for publication:

WASHINGTON, September 11, 1841.

Sir: Circumstances have occurred in the course of your administration, and chiefly in the exercise by you of the veto power which constrain me to believe that my longer continuance in office as a member of your Cabinet will be neither agreeable to you, useful to the country, nor honorable to myself.

Do me the justice, Mr. President, to believe that this conclusion has been adopted neither capriciously, nor in any spirit of party feeling or personal hostility, but from a sense of duty, which, mistaken though it may be, is yet so sincerely entertained, that I cheerfully sacrifice to it the advantages and distinction of office.

Be pleased therefore to accept this as my resignation of the office of Attorney General of the United States.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.

J. J. CRITTENDEN.

The President.

—
TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Sept. 11, 1841.

Sir: After the most calm and careful consideration, and viewing the subject in all the aspects in which it presents itself to my mind, I have come to the conclusion that I ought no longer to remain a member of your Cabinet. I therefore resign the office of Secretary of the Treasury, and beg you to accept this as my letter of resignation.

To avoid misunderstanding, I distinctly declare that I do not consider a difference of opinion as to the charter of a National Bank a sufficient reason for dissolving the ties which have existed between us. Though I look upon that measure as one of vast importance to the prosperity of the country, and though I should have deeply deplored your inability or unwillingness to accord it to the wishes of the People and the States, so unequivocally expressed through their Representatives, still, upon this and this alone, unconnected with other controlling circumstances, I should not have felt bound to resign the place which I hold in your administration. But those controlling circumstances do exist, and I will, in my own justification, place them in connexion before you.

It is but just to you to say that the bill which first passed the two Houses of Congress, and which was returned with your objections on the 16th of August, did never, in its progress, as far as I know or believe, receive at any time either your express or implied assent. So far as that bill was known to me, or as I was consulted upon it, I endeavored to bring its provisions, as nearly as possible, in accordance with what I understood to be your views, and rather hoped than expected your approval. I knew the extent to which you were committed on the question. I knew the pertinacity with which you adhered to your expressed opinion, and I dreaded from the first the most disastrous consequences, when the project of compromise which I presented at an early day was rejected.

It is equally a matter of justice to you and to myself to say that the bill which I reported to the two Houses of Congress at the commencement of the session, in obedience to their call, was modified so as to meet your approbation. You may not, it is true, have read the bill throughout, and examined every part of it; but the 16th fundamental article, which became the contested question of principle, was freely discussed between us, and it was understood and unequivocally sanctioned by yourself. The last clause in the bill, also, which contained a reservation of power in Congress, was inserted on the 9th of June, in your presence, and with your approbation; though you at one time told me that, in giving your sanction to the bill, you would accompany it with an explanation of your understanding of that first clause.

In this condition of things, though I greatly regretted your veto on the bill as it passed the two Houses of Congress, and though I foresaw the excitement and agitation which it would produce among the people; yet, considering the changes which the bill has undergone in its passage, and its variance from the one you had agreed to sanction, I could not find in that act enough to disturb the confidential relations which existed between us. I was disposed to attribute this act, fraught with mischief as it was, to pure and honorable motives, and to a conscientious conviction on your part that the bill, in some of its provisions, conflicted with the constitution. But that opinion of your course on the bill which has just been returned to Congress with your second veto, I do not and cannot entertain. Recur to what has passed between us with respect to it, and you will perceive that such opinion is impossible.

On the morning of the 16th of August, I called at your chamber, and found you preparing the first veto message, to be despatched to the Senate. The Secretary of War came in also, and you read a portion of the message to us. He observed that, though the veto would create a great sensation in Congress, yet he thought

the minds of our friends better prepared for it than they were some days ago, and he hoped it would be calmly received, especially as it did not shut out all hope of a bank. To this you replied, that you really thought there ought to be no difficulty about it; that you had sufficiently indicated in your veto message what kind of a bank you would approve, and that Congress might, if they saw fit, pass such a one in three days.

The 18th being the day for our regular Cabinet meeting, we assembled, all except Messrs. Crittenden and Granger, and you told us that you had had a long conversation with Messrs. Berrien and Sergeant, who professed to come in behalf of the Whigs of the two Houses to endeavor to strike out some measure which would be generally acceptable. That you had your doubts about the propriety of conversing with them yourself, and thought it more proper that you should commune with them through your constitutional advisers. You expressed a wish that the whole subject should be postponed till the next session of Congress. You spoke of the delay in the Senate of the consideration of your veto message, and expressed anxiety as to the tone and temper which the debate would assume.

Mr. Badger said that on inquiry he was happy to find that the best temper prevailed in the two Houses. He believed they were perfectly ready to take up the bill reported by the Secretary of the Treasury, and pass it at once. You replied, "Talk not to me of Mr. Ewing's bill; it contains that odious feature of local discounts which I have repudiated in my message." "I then said to you, I have no doubt, sir, that the House, having ascertained your views, will pass a bill in conformity to them, provided they can be satisfied that it would answer the purposes of the Treasury, and relieve the country." You then said, "Cannot my Cabinet see that this is brought about? You must stand by me in this emergency. Cannot you see that a bill passes Congress such as I can approve without inconsistency?" I declared again my belief that such a bill might be passed. And you then said to me, "What do you understand to be my opinions? State them, so that I may see that there is no misapprehension about them."

I then said that I understood you to be of opinion that Congress might charter a bank in the District of Columbia, giving it its location here. To this you assented. That they might authorize such bank to establish offices of discount and deposit in the several States, with the assent of the States. To this you replied, "Don't name discounts; they have been the source of the most abominable corruptions, and are wholly unnecessary to enable the bank to discharge its duties to the country and the Government."

I observed in reply that I was proposing nothing, but simply endeavoring to state what I had understood to be your opinion as to the powers which Congress might constitutionally confer on a bank; that on that point I stood corrected. I then proceeded to say that I understood you to be of opinion that Congress might authorize such bank to establish agencies in the several States, with power to deal in bills of exchange, without the assent of the States, to which you replied, "Yes, if they be foreign bills, or bills drawn in one State and payable in another. That is all the power necessary for transmitting the public funds and regulating exchanges and the currency."

Mr. Webster then expressed, in strong terms, his opinion that such a charter would answer all just purposes of Government and be satisfactory to the People; and declared his preference for it over any which had been proposed, especially as it dispensed with the assent of the States to the creation of an institution necessary for carrying on the fiscal operations of Government. He examined it at some length, both as to its constitutionality and its influence on the currency and exchanges, in all which views you expressed your concurrence, desire that such a bill should be introduced, and especially that it should go into the hands of so many of your friends. To my inquiry whether Sergeant would be agreeable to you, you replied that he would. You especially requested Webster and myself to communicate with Mr. Berrien and Sergeant on the subject, to you said you had promised to address but you doubted not that this personal negotiation would be equally satisfactory desired us, also, in communicating with gentlemen, not to commit you, personally, to this being recognized as your measure, but to be made a subject of comparison to dice in the course of discussion. Webster then conversed about the wording of the 16th fundamental article, and of the connexion in which it should be introduced; you also spoke of the institution, desiring that it should be made a subject of discussion. Webster then conversed about the institution, desiring that it should be made a subject of discussion. Webster then conversed about the institution, desiring that it should be made a subject of discussion. Webster then conversed about the institution, desiring that it should be made a subject of discussion.