

Memorandum Dec^r 28th 1819.

Dr Sir

Having rec^d a confidential communication from the Dept^o of war which rendered it probable that I might be ordered to take the field, I found ^{it} necessary ~~to~~ to proceed to Florence to make some arrangements for such an event, from whence I returned on the 26th where I found your letter of the 7th Instant, for which I thank you.

I am happy to find, that on the Florida question the members of Congress began to feel like Americans - and I hope, that by a firm & just course they will save our National Character, and not only do Justice to our Citizens, but consult the safety of our country by seizing on such points as will give us a lasting security, as well as full indemnity to our Citizens for losses sustained.

I reprobate the idea, and fully appreciate it - of abandoning all our former policy through fear of the holy alliance. It is better to be just to ourselves, as well as to be just to others, to maintain our rights at all hazards - by which alone our Nation will be respected abroad and we can enjoy a lasting peace with foreign powers. I do reprobate the idea of waiting longer for explanations from our faithful Spain - can we receive a minister from that power

and my several letters with my answer to the
report of the committee of the Senate will
have been read - they will have taken such
direction as your wisdom dictated - & with
which I ~~will be~~ ^{will be} content - I had upon the most
mature reflection, deemed my answer the only
proper course - if you have thought with me
I will be gratified - I fear not an over-throw,
I wish to be judged agreeable to facts, not
falshoods - & the mode proposed of presenting
the letter to the President of the Senate with
the documents - would, as I believe, never be
read - I hope ere long to hear from you on
this subject; -

In my late tour I had bad weather, was
exposed on the whole of it, and feel the wear
of my descent - present me to Doctor B
- enough & best wishes of with you - I will write
Doctor Bunnough as soon as I have leisure
I am engaged pursuing the lengthy trial
of Col. King & preparing if possible to for-
ward it to the Dept. by tomorrow's mail
Present me to my worthy friend Col.
J. Gibson, and all those who enquire for me
your friends are all well here -
accept assurances of my friendship
& Esteem - Andrew Jackson

Mrs J. H. Eaton

Senator in Congress