

Carter Beverly to Andrew Jackson, June 9, 1827, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

CARTER BEVERLEY TO JACKSON.

Wheeling, Va. , June 9, 1827.

Dear Sir, I did myself the pleasure of addressing a letter to you from Louisville Kentucky on the 15th Ult., and for safety, indor[se]d it to Mr. Edmonson formerly of that place, now a resident of Nashville. I paid the postage on both letters, and urg'd on him to deliver it to you as soon as recvd. I reach'd here nearly a week since, and have been Expecting the arrival of a letter from you.¹ The public Excitement at Louisville and at Cincinnati, was very great indeed, in consequence of the publication of my letter to my Friend in Fayetteville North Carolina: The Friends of Mr. Clay appear to be most dreadfully exasperated agt. me; and in some instances, have presum'd to doubt the authority of the information I gave. I have found occasion, (wi. the advice of some of yr. Friends) to make a publication or two on the subject: The Louisville Advertiser contain'd 'em both. I have been variously call'd upon as I pass'd on to this place, and even here, by a number of gentlemen, to detail the facts, as I heard them from you. This I have done wi. critical exactness; and they are resolv'd to bring the whole matter to public view *at once*. They say that it is their part to have the matter ascertain'd; and that if Mr. Clay has been capable of advancing to you the proposition in reference to, and it can be substantiated agt. him, he ought to be execrated and abandon'd forever by his Friends; and that for themselves, partial as they are to him, they will forthwith give him up. Have no doubt therefore, that you will be publicly call'd upon to come forward. Mr. Clay it is thought will not advance *himself* further in the business; and

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his Friends, will, some of them (blind to his faults) go on to say that he has denied it, when perhaps he has not.

1 See p. 355, *ante*.

Some gentlemen here assure me that he *denied the whole* at a public dinner given to him last summer at this place: They say this wi. positiveness, and declare that the public will expect from you a developement of the entire matter. Some appear to doubt exceedingly yr. ability to prove it upon him. Some again say, that Mr. Clay's Friends might have made the attempt upon you, without his having any knowledge of it; and for you to have declar'd the circumstance so openly and so very candidly, without there being a full authentication of it, perfectly within your reach. Yr. Friends believe every word of it, and vehemently maintain that you are perfectly incapable of making such an assertion without proof. I think proper to make this communication to you, to prepare you for the circumstance. Be pleas'd pray to let me hear from you directed hither. I still look out to receive a letter from you, in answer to mine I wrote to you from Kentucky. I beg my respects to Mrs. Jackson, and am
Dear Sir

[*Indorsement in Jackson's handwriting:*] Carter Beverly of 9th of June 1827, not to be answd. have wrote him on the 5th June on the subject and the correspondence dropped.