

**Andrew Jackson to John Coffee, September 15, 1812,
from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by
John Spencer Bassett.**

1 Copy.

Nashville, September 15, 1812.

Sir, I recd. your letter of last week and would have answered it, but time would not permit. I have observed its contents, and treasured them, you know I love you, know your merit, and can never forget you.

Nothing is done yet. the Governor 2 and myself cannot agree in the mode of appointing the field Officers. His letters to me from Knoxville come up to my idea of propriety, But at our last interview he appears to have thought on the subject and had altered. But he will d[o] right.

2 Willie Blount, governor of Tennessee; see vol. I., p. 201.

The idea of electing the field Officers by the solderry, never shall take place with my consent. we will shortly be called into the field. we want men capable of command, who will fight and reduce their soldiers to strict subordination.

I wish Polly 3 was safely delivered, and in health, so that I could see you. I have much to say to you. I see from the Enquirer, that he is lashing the Sec. of War. 4 from the fatality that has befallen our western Army, he must and will be removed. The President is addressed in such a way, his election coming on, to save himself he must part with Eustis, or he will die a constitutional death.

Library of Congress

3 Coffee's wife was a niece of Mrs. Jackson.

4 Dr. William Eustis.

We must have a war minister that will draw forth the energies of the Nation, and is capable of diverting the storm, and all is well, otherwise disgrace, and destruction will follow.

Present my love to Polly. Adieu.