

William Carroll to Andrew Jackson, September 27, 1831, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

1 Address marked "Private". Carroll was governor of Tennessee from 1821 to 1827 and from 1829 to 1835.

Nashville, September 27, 1831.

Dear General, Two days ago I received Major Eatons defence ² which you were so kind as to inclose to me; and I have read it with great attention. It is written with ability, and cannot fail to make a favorable impression on the mind of every unprejudiced reader. The conduct of Messrs. Ingham, Berrien and Branch was certainly very exceptionable, and furnished good evidence of the propriety of your organizing a new Cabinet. The defence has been read with deep interest by the members of the Legislature, and one of them told me to day that it had produced a strong sympathy in behalf of Major Eaton. Indeed it has had this effect upon all who have read it. Even Colo. Erwin speaks in high terms of it, and says that he would prefer Eaton for the Senate to Grundy.

² John H. Eaton, *A Candid Appeal to the American Public in reply to Messrs. Ingham, Branch, and Berrien on the Dissolution of the late Cabinet* (Washington, 183).

Grundy and E. H. Foster are rivals before the Legislature for the Senate. Each have their warm partizans, and both calculate upon success. My own opinion is, that the election will not come on this session, especially as we must have a called session to lay off the congressional Districts.

A preamble and Resolutions have been introduced in the House of Representatives ³ recapitulating and approving of the leading measures of your administration, and

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recommending you again as chief Majistrate. They will pass without an opposing voice in either house.

3 Of Tennessee.

The course of Duff Green in relation to your administration admonishes one to be cautious in confiding in professed friendships. He is a man in whose honor I never did confide.

Judge Overton has returned home in a bad state of health. From appearances I should not think that he will last long.

You know that I have been for some time of opinion that you would have no opposition at the next election. All the recent developments sustain that belief. Already it is seen that the representation in a majority of the States are for you—hence no good can result from multiplying the candidates to throw the decision upon the house of representatives. Mr. Clay cannot get one half of the western votes, and surely he has no chance elsewhere except in New England. It therefore seems to me that as the election approaches, all opposition will be withdrawn. Harmony and Union among your friends at the approaching session will accomplish much in your behalf.

As I have nothing of interest to communicate I will only add the assurance of the regard, with which, I am, most sincerely Your friend