treachery, it charged him with intriguing with the federalists to defeat the election of Mr. Jefferson, and through their aid place himself in the presidential chair. James Cheetham, an Englishman by birth, a man of wit and great talents as a periodical writer, but as a political writer sometimes too regardless of truth, was the senior editor and conductor of this paper.

"On the other hand, Colonel Burr and his friends established a paper in New York [in October, 1802], denominated the *Morning Chronicle*, of which Dr. [Peter] Irving was the editor, which was the antagonist of the *American Citizen*. Mr. Irving, who was a man of respectable literary attainments, did not seem so well qualified as Mr. Cheetham, for that kind of cut and thrust warfare which then was, and now is, too much the fashion of the day. The *Morning Chronicle*, however, carried the war into the camp of the opponents of Mr. Burr, charging the Clintons and Livingstons with inordinate personal ambition, with exercising an unwarrantable and a dictatorial power over the democratic party, and with having appropriated an unreasonable portion of the spoils of victory to their own immediate use. It affirmed that the conduct of Colonel Burr had been correct and honorable, and that the opposition to him was produced by a desire to get rid of him in order to bring forward some member of the Clinton or Livingston family as the prominent favorite of the democracy of the north for the high office [of vice-president] which Burr then held, and ultimately for the first office in the [gift of the] nation. The controversy was conducted * * * * with extreme asperity, and the leaders of the two sections of the republicans became personally hostile to each other, so much so that social intercourse was broken off between them, and even pecuniary transactions were affected and controlled by their political prejudices and animosities."[1]

Through the influence of the Clinton faction, Colonel Burr was not reelected a director of the Manhattan Company. The summary exclusion of Colonel Burr from the management of the affairs of the prominent corporation led immediately to open denunciation of the covert maliciousness of those instigating it. DeWitt Clinton, at that time mayor of the city of New York, hearing at the residence of Ezekiel Robins an assertion ascribed to Colonel John Swartwout, forthwith denominated him "a liar, a scoundrel, and a villain." This aspersive language was at once reported to him.

"One defect in Mr. Clinton's character as a public man," as observed by a judicious writer, "and indeed as a private citizen, was that he was too reckless in his remarks about gentlemen who differed with him in political opinions. He was too apt to treat and speak of every man who opposed his political views as

[1] The history of political parties in the state of New York. By Jabez D. Hammond, vol. i., pp. 185, 186.