

camp to [the French general] Dumouriez. The person called his brother is that Marquis de St. Mard of whom something has been said."

Under the date of October 1, he wrote, at 30 Craven Street: "S. Swartwout called with his letters from Lees."

On October 12, he again writes of Samuel Swartwout: "It was fortunate that I came to town, for yesterday he received orders to go on to Liverpool forthwith."

On the fourteenth of October, from London he wrote to Jeremy Bentham: "Swartwout is still here, but has received his final summons and will go on Sunday evening. We have so much to do, and with my habits and his, so many things are left till the last moment, that I cannot leave him till the moment of his departure.

"No plan has yet been adopted. All those which you have heard loosely suggested are still under consideration. \* \* \* \* It seems, however, that I ought not to remain longer in this kingdom. But the whither, and the how, and the when, are points on which I greatly desire to confer with you, and I had hoped you would also have heard Swartwout on the subject. There is, nevertheless, a certainty that I shall be in or near London at and for some days after your arrival."

Nine days thereafter he addressed the following letter to Samuel Swartwout:

"London, October 23, 1808.

"Your first letter has been received and acknowledged; the second has not yet come to hand. I am a little apprehensive that you and your friends may have overvalued the resources of the Floridas. It is a country very thinly peopled, there being not more than 2,500 families in the whole extent of six hundred miles, from St. Augustine to Baton Rouge. The American settlement (above the Spanish line) on the Mobile is about 400 families, and dependent wholly on the towns of Mobile and Pensacola, having no other course to market but down the Mobile. The Natchez settlement, just above the line, and bordering on the Mississippi, is flourishing and wealthy, and, if you can get access to it, will take all your merchandise, and supply as much cotton as you may be disposed to purchase.

"The persons whose names I have given you will put you in the way to accomplish everything that may be practicable, and will aid you in the execution. The two *excellencies* to whom you have letters are to be approached with caution. Colonel M. and Dr. W. will advise you. Perhaps it may be expedient, in the first instance, to sound them as a merchant, without disclosing yourself further. One cannot conjecture the sort of influence which the late political changes may have had on their minds.