

Daniel Carroll to Benjamin Franklin, Annapolis, 2 December 1787

Some occurrences having taken place since the meeting of our Legislature, of such a nature that I wish you to be informd of them more clearly than I can do by letter. I hope Majr. McHenry who was in Convention with me for this State will have an opportunity of delivering this letter *himself*—This leads to a Subject which gives me considerable uneasiness. I am afraid you will think, that I have transgressd on your act of Kindness, when I inform you that I have been compelld to make use of y^r observations deliverd in the Co^mmittee of Convention on the Subject of Representation, & those deliverd on the 17th. of Sepr.—The House of Delegates having pass'd a Resolve requesting the attendance of their Deputies to give them information of the proceedings in Convention, Messrs. McHenry, Jenifer, Martin, & myself attended. I have reason to think the Motion for that purpose originated from an Antifederal disposn., but believe many concur'd in it from the purest motives—

We thought it necessary to attend to prevent as far as in our power the impressions which might be receivd from the picture we knew Mr. Martin wou'd draw, & it woud have afforded pleasure & a pretext for their purposes to the Antifederalists, if we had refus'd to attend—It appeared in the Course of the business, that our presence was *indeed necessary*

Alltho' Mr McHenry distinguisd himself on this occasion, beyond the most sanguine hopes of his friends, and the expectations of the adverse party, Such motives were imputed to many of the Members, to Genl Washington and y^rself by name, and such a misrepresentation made, that I found myself compelld to let Mr. McHenry *read* y^e 1st speech already mentiond, and to *read* myself that deliverd on the 17th of Sepr. after having giveing a *just* relation in what manner they were receivd by me, & that I did it at the risk of y^r displeasure, for the public Good—

I had not co^municated these speeches to any but Messrs. Ths Johnson Mr Carroll of Carrollton & my Brother untill this occasion, nor have I sufferd any copy to be taken nor will not *without y^r permission* to persons *I can depend On* to be usd occasionally for the same purpose I have done it, or will do any thing else with them you may require—

If you will honor me with a few lines they may releive me from the anxiety I now feel—

Mr Carroll of Carrollton to rememberd to you Kindedst manner—

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