

First Hill

24<sup>th</sup> Aug. 1831

My dear Sir, I am much  
gratified that my commu-  
nication has been so well  
received by you & my beloved  
brother generally. It was a step  
full of hope as to me, but  
I never hesitated a moment  
as to my course. I did one  
good effort, it must be.  
It will be read, there is  
no other communication on the  
same subject would, do not  
set them to thinking who had  
not hitherto turned a  
moment's attention to the subject.  
I had a letter from Col. Smith  
by the last mail dated at

the Spring. He says it is looked  
for by some with the most in-  
tense solicitude.

Mr Wardlaw's remarks were  
very judicious. Would it not  
be well for him to extract  
favorable notices from other  
papers, particularly out of  
the state. I have as yet seen  
but two Virginia papers, the  
Jeffersonian & the Petersburg  
Intelligencer. They are both  
favorable. How do the Georgia  
& N. Carolina papers notice  
it?

As to the Penning, it seems to  
me, that being placed on my ser-  
vice on record, my true course  
is to stand still & leave it to the  
people without any agency on my  
part. I have not, nor do I intend  
to make any move. I could have  
worn it, if I ~~had~~ <sup>could have worn</sup> had chosen

advanced  
even to hold general language, as to my  
+ opinions. but I would not accept  
the office unless to ensure the resto-  
ration of the lewis & clark. I prefer  
a fair reputation founded on an  
honest discharge of duty to my office  
however high. If I know myself a  
crown, much less the penalty, could  
not bear me from what I  
deemed right.

I think clay cannot be elected. The  
Anti Slavery cannot be brought over  
to him. Jackson is in a minority, and  
is still in his. Adams is not  
strong. The single objection to me  
is the Carolina doctrine. How all  
this will work it is hard to say.  
I see much confusion, but trust  
beyond. I trust, success in my  
own cause will prevail, but it  
seems to me, it would be desirable  
for the states  
+ to be forced into a contest between  
+ Jackson & clay, or any other candidate  
hostile to our principles.

I recd your letter to Smith

you refer. you will certainly do my  
best with your father but I fear  
it is a hopeless task. He is hard  
to convince.

Mr. Calhoun is not yet out of  
London. Maria is well. They  
all desire their love to you  
& I remain  
Sincerely

J. B. Calhoun

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