

Savannah, January 29, 1804.

1804

Dear Sir,

As I have engaged to notice the defects as well as the good qualities of any candidate recommended to office, it is proper that you should know the following fact.

Capt. Choate purchased in Liverpool a quantity of glass and crockery ware for his own use, On the way home, his mate, Guthrie, persuaded him that he ought not to pay duties "when such a fellow as Putnam had command of the cutter, and suffered goods every day to be run." Choate hearkened to him, gave him the goods, and they were smuggled ashore. Guthrie has, since, been united with Putnam, ~~and~~ threatened a prosecution, but it was supposed the proof was not sufficient.

I am persuaded Choate heartily repents of the transaction and will never again be guilty of it. ^{or similarly} As it came to my knowledge since I wrote in his favour, I believed

Morse S. Savanna Jan. 29. rec'd Feb. 15.

it would be a neglect of duty to suffer it
to pass.

Every body is looking for the removal
of Putnam; though I receive some censure
for the part I have acted against him; not
on his account, but from a supposed coaliti-
on with Mr. Gibbons. I know I am doing
my duty and am fully supported by my con-
science.

There are two individuals who, I think,
would not make improper candidates for the
place. Alexander Wyly, son of the late Col.
Wyly, a revolutionary character; and Benja-
min Webley, who was himself a revolutionary
character. Their particular claims have not been
investigated, nor have they been spoken with on
the subject.

Accept the assurance of my highest respect.

L. Morse

Mr Jefferson.