

Phila. March 26<sup>th</sup> 1800.

Dear Ben.

The enclosed paper shows the beginning of the debate on the  
Main Question respecting Probbins, with Mr. Livingston's Speech -  
you had better take care of it write you get the residue as you  
may see the whole in one view, and you will consider them for  
Ed. & Linn as well as yourself as I cannot conveniently send to  
both, they will also serve others, when you opt to Messrs. Keller  
it will be worth a perusal. Much was said on the subject  
before, but the debates came out so irregular that I could not  
conveniently opt them. What gave rise to these was an attempt  
made by the gentlemen who brought forward the charge to get  
clear of it without proceeding in the enquiry in such a manner  
as to impress on the public mind that the President had done  
nothing wrong in the matter, when they failed in this they  
endeavored to effect the same thing in a different way, by calling  
for papers that could not be had - got during the session and such  
that if got could not apply in the case -

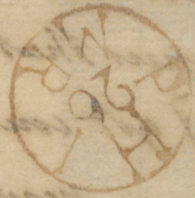
We are now engaged in an amendment of the Judiciary System,  
that it may be effected or not I cannot say, but it is generally  
opposed. If the States of Virg. will carry in Prohibitions  
the Genl. Govt. must, it must endeavor to take care of itself  
already has she forbid any person holding an Office under the State  
to execute any under the Genl. Government, & she may lay  
some restrictions on her Courts. At present it is not uncom-  
monly to increase the number of Federal Courts, thus in Virg.  
& in the same proportion throughout, but if this hostile spirit  
in the States should increase, the Federal Judiciary System must  
increase with it.

The Senate has had Deane before them for publishing false scandalous  
& seditious falsehoods with respect to them, his insolence was to be  
sure intolerable. The report says that evening that he had fled, whether  
it is the case or not I cannot tell, but I believe they were obtained in  
victory over him, for notwithstanding all his whining that he  
was about to fall a victim for his steady support of liberty, civil  
Republicanism, he finds but few here disposed to support <sup>him</sup> and indeed  
all here, even among the Moderate Demos, reprobate his insidious  
conduct. I have recd no letter from you since February, remember me  
to all I am

Yrs affly

Levin Powell

Mar 26. 1800



John Lewis Powell

Major James Powell

Wm. Matthews

Merrolsburg

Acronon County

Virginia

FRONT

Handwritten numbers and scribbles, including '336 3', '100', and '39'.