

Richmond Dec 27th 1817

My dear Sir

Enclosed is a letter which I received a few days past & which will best explain itself. I have only to say that the writer⁺ is one of the kindest hearted men in the world, & that I am convinced the letter is written at the instigation of that heart and of Mr. Ogden. I had never heard that Mr. Morris intended the publication alluded to. If she does you will yourself be the best judge of the course which you as her most esteemed friend ought to pursue.

I hope your health has improved since your escape from the court & its labors & am my dear Sir with much regard & esteem

Your Obedt

J Marshall

Turn over for The Answer.

+ B: Livingston of New York.

George Tucker

Williamsburg

Honble

John Marshall copy
Dec 27. 1817.
Enclosing letter from Mr
B: Livingston of New York
with
my answer — and
a copy of my letter to
Mrs Ann L. Morris.

My dear Sir,

August

Windsor Decr 30th 1817.

By the last Evening's Mail I received your favour of the 27th. and in consequence of it, enclose you a letter to Mrs Morris which you will be pleased to peruse and forward as directed. I beg you will request your friend Mr Livingston, let what will be the result, not to mention my name to any human Being, as having anything to do with the subject of his letter to you. If my advice should have any good effect I shall most sincerely rejoice in the event.

John Marshall Esq^r 2
Richmond 7

Jan 20. 1818. J.M.

P.S: I have thought it best to enclose my letter to Mrs M. to her Brother (T.M. R.) and leave both open for your perusal; be pleased seal both.

Copy of my letter to Mrs Anne: Morris. Decr 30. 1817.

My dear Nancy,

Windsor Decr 30. 1817.

By the last Evening's Mail I received a communication from an intimate and most respected friend, that it is understood in New York, that you are preparing to publish a pamphlet on the subject of your differences with Mr Ogden. — Whatever claims or causes of complaint you may have agt Mr O — the press is not the medium through which you are to obtain redress. In recommending it to you to consult Mr R^d Harrison upon all your affairs, & to follow his advice, I flattered myself I had pointed out the best course, by which your just claims against Mr O — might be satisfied. Beyond that point, I believe I have on all occasions advised you to avoid any recourse to Courts, or to public discussions of any sort. The same reasons apply more strongly to an avoidance of all public discussions through the medium of the press. Public opinion, even if in your favor, can afford no redress for pecuniary claims. And they who resort to Courts, or to the press, for redress of any other injuries, should beware how they take that dangerous course; it may be compared to attacking a nest of Hornets, because one has been stung by one of the species; those who venture on such a mode of retaliation run the risk of being stung to death. Let me conjure you, then, if you have any regard to my advice, to abandon every Idea of the kind. Your own happiness, and that of your beloved child, require that you should abstain from whatever may tend to widen the unhappy breach between yourself, & his near Relations; it may, and probably would, injure him through life, & embitter every moment of your own. I make no apology for thus freely advising you, as I have repeatedly done on other occasions, because I persuaded myself you will attribute my advice to the purest motives of friendship. Jan 20. 1818. J.M.

Enclosed to her Brother T.M. Randolph to deliver or forward to her and both enclosed open to Judge Marshall, for his perusal.