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with the office of an ample salary. As my opinion had not been founded on any private interest, I declined the proposal, prizing the esteem of my Country, and believing that such a Station, would be deemed unsuitable for a young Man, without property, to domineering the [illegible] of a populous City.

As the systems of the Government enlarged and the acts of Congress multiplied, the duties of my Office increased;— The regulations respecting the internal revenue; the Military establishment consequent upon Indian hostilities;— the organization of the Mint and Post Office department; the Land Office; the Naval establishment rendered necessary by Algerine depredations; various & multiplied Expenditures of foreign Intercourse, occasioned by the Revolutions in France and in Hispaniola, produced heavy & diversified Expenditures, the powers of which, were for the first time to be prescribed and maintained.

It could not otherwise happen, and it did in fact happen, that these multiplied operations, rendered the Treasury Department, the point to which public attention was mainly attracted and continual Enquiries were made to ascertain the precise manner in which the affairs of the Country were conducted. As strong diversities of opinion existed respecting the wisdom or Expediency of several of the Legislative regulations, and as which were attributed to the personal influence of the head of the Department, it became the more necessary, that I should strictly confine my agency to the Executive details, to enable me to evince and demonstrate, the practical effects of public measures.

I believe, that I may now with propriety, & I may even say duty, & I do so in this