these complicated duties, in a manner which was satisfactory to Congress and to the Community:— that no subsequent examination has impaired the accuracy of the representations which were then made; and that although the systems of the Government have varied and been greatly amplified, and extended, by accessions of new States and territories, yet that the fundamental principles, upon which the administration of the Department was first placed, have since remained without essential variations.

On the resignation of Secretary Hamilton, I was again without solicitation on my part, appointed his Successor with the consent of the Senate, on the second of February 1795. Under a Commission received from President Washington, I performed the duties of the new Office acceptably to President Washington, untill his retirement in March 1797.— Although I placed entire confidence in the virtues and Patriotism of President Adams, who had been elected his Successor yet being desirous that my Personal Interests should not embarrass his Administration, and supposing it possible, that some other person might be preferred to myself, I voluntarily offered, before his inauguration, to surrender the Station I then occupied. The tender was declined by the President elect, and I still retained the Office of Secretary of the Treasury which I held under a Commission from President Washington.

In November 1800, I obtained permission to resign my Trust, at the close of December of that year which I immediately communicated to the House of Representatives, with a request that they would institute an enquiry into all my

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