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Washington City

5<sup>th</sup> February 1845

Dear William,

I received your letter by last nights mail a long letter from you on the subject of politicks, and you must excuse me from not adverting to this subject again in our future correspondence—I should never have written one word to you on the subject, had I not thought your letter to me required a response, (???) I am satisfied that if it be continued here after that it can result in no good and may possibly (???) (???), I must therefore decline this controversy with you on political topics-- I will however set you right on one subject, you say tha instead of the national bank providing(?) the (???) I adverted(?) to in my former letter, you allege(?) that they were legitimate offspring of the Independent Treasury and not Sub Treasury as you call it—when did the Charter of the national bank expire was it not in 1836? Was not this Capital reincorporated(?) by the state of Pennsylvania? And did in not continue until the suspension of payment by all the banks in the country, this Bank the very first to set the example—You forget that the Indepenant Treasury Bill was never passed into a law until the last year of Mr. Van Burens administration, in the summer of 1840? And you have forgotten another fact that of the Extra Session called by Genl Harrison in 1841 this independent treasury bill was repealed? And this Bill was therefore not actually in existence for twelve months. I am to agree this or any other political topic—But I wish you to be in possession of the facts for of you are ignorant of them, and were to as(?) sent that as that time, which you get from lying newspapers, and sockless slump orators , in a strange company(?) you would do yourself injustice – Good men, have differed and always will differ as to the effect of certain measures upon national and individual prosperity—But well informed men never differ as to mere matters of fact—I am Sorry that any portion of the American people should have so much degraded(?) themselves, as to have hung in effigy the man which has been chosen by the American People, under the Terms of the Constitutions to preside over this great nation—I would that the stain, deep(?) (???) and disgraceful, might be wiped from Tennessee fair escalation, and I fear that the day will

come that little action(?) will be looked on as the very Sodom and Gomorra, of Scriptures, that was destroyed by an offended God because such(?) one solitary negative man cried be (???)== I am now done forever with political argument with you== With my own principles I am satisfied, and I assume you have(?) no disposition to make coverts(?), for for we have always had + still have a majority of the American people on the side of Democratic principles and measures== You will be surprised when I tell you Mr. Samuel Colt inventor of the Submarine Battery, of whom you spoke is such flattering terms in your last letter is now here at Washing(Washington), and is actually boarding in the same house with me, and I am (???) and (???) terms with him—I read to him your (???) (???) compliments== you have but done him justice. I am of the opinion that his invention is one of the wonders of the Age, and I am (???) of the opinion that it will ultimately be adopted as the means of fortifying all of our harbors, against foreign invasion== If it is practicable, and I think now it will be found so== It will be the means of saving much of the peoples money as at present (???) did on our present system of fortification== This leaves us all in good in health == Believe me as Ever

Yours Truly

John Lumkin

I shall be glad to hear from you on the family(???) and all times, but no more politicks