

terms, for which no parallel can be found in Massachusetts, are ushered into the halls of Congress, under the most solemn and imposing forms of State authority. It is not our part to censure or to approve these proceedings. Massachusetts has *done* nothing at any time, in opposition to the national government, and she has said nothing in derogation of its powers, that is not fully justified by the constitution; and not so much as other States have said, with more decided emphasis; and, as it is believed, without the stimulus of the same actual grievances. We are no longer at a loss to account for the prevalence of these prejudices against this part of the Union, since they can now be traced, not only to calumnies openly propagated in the season of bitter contention by irritated opponents, but to the secret and hitherto unknown aspersions of Mr Adams.

Mr Jefferson, then at the head of government, declares that the effect of Mr Adams' communication to him at their interview in March, 1808, was such on his mind, as to induce a change in the system of his administration. Like impressions were doubtless made on Mr Giles and others, who then gave direction to the public sentiment. Notwithstanding these disadvantages, if Mr Adams had not seen fit to proclaim to the world his former secret denunciation, there had still been room to hope that those impressions would be speedily obliterated; that odious distinctions between the people of different States would be abolished; and that all would come to feel a common interest in referring symptoms of excitement against the procedure of the national government, which have been manifested successively on so many occasions, and in so many States, to the feelings, which, in free governments, are always roused by like causes, and are characteristic, not of a factious but a generous sensibility to real or supposed usurpation. But Mr Adams returns to the charge with new animation; and by his political legacy to the people of Massachusetts, undertakes to entail upon them lasting dishonor. He reaffirms his convictions of the reality of the old project, persists in connecting it with later events, and dooms himself to the vocation of proving that the federal party were either traitors or dupes. Thus he has again (but not like a healing angel) troubled the pool, and we know not when the turbid waters will subside.

It must be apparent, that we have not sought, but have been driven into this unexpected and unwelcome controversy. On the restoration of peace in 1815, the federal party felt like men, who, as by a miracle, find themselves *safe* from the most appalling *peril*. Their joy was too engrossing to permit a vindictive recurrence to the causes of that peril. Every emotion of animosity was permitted to subside. From that time until the appearance of Mr Adams' publication, they had cordially joined in the general gratulation on the prosperity of their country, and the security of its institutions. They were conscious of no deviation