

MADISON.

Yes, every one fights after his own fashion. (*Chambers bites his lips*).

NELLY.

Is it true, Mr. Madison, that you are to leave us so soon — perhaps to morrow morning?

MADISON.

Duty forces me to go.

CHAMBERS.

Instead of wandering on the banks of the Hudson, why does not Mr. Washington establish his quarters in New-York? We should thus have the pleasure of seeing you oftener.

MADISON.

We wait till the British army comes to West Point. As your profession obliges you to follow the army, we should then be sure to meet.

CHAMBERS (*ironically*).

I should fear to be made prisoner.

MADISON.

Oh! fear nothing. We never take the trouble of capturing non-combatants.

PARKER.

There is a rumor that the colonial army is in want of everything and badly demoralized. Also that Washington himself despairs of being able to continue the war. Of course the story is groundless?

CHAMBERS.

I imagine that if the continentals had the tea which they threw overboard in Boston harbor, they would make a better use of it.

MADISON.

And I fancy that, if the thing were to be done over again, the British would be more accomodating in delivering the