# THE LIFE

## PUBLIC SERVICES, ADDRESSES AND LETTERS

OF

# ELIAS BOUDINOT, LL.D.

### PRESIDENT OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

#### EDITED BY

J. J. BOUDINOT member of the New Jersey Historical Society

IN TWO VOLUMES

VOLUME II.



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## TO PROVIDE FOR WAGE-EARNERS IN THE MINT. 161

## MR. BOUDINOT TO HIS EXCELLENCY THOMAS JEFFERSON.

MINT OF THE UNITED STATES, PHILADELPHIA, 17th April 1802.

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

The Director of the Mint, being informed by the public news papers, that a Bill has been brought into Congress for abolishing of the Mint, cannot, consistent, with his duty, omit, respectfully to represent the Case of some of the Officers, Clerks and workmen of the Mint, to the President.

The Salaries and Wages allowed in the Mint have not been increased since the first establishment of the Institution, notwithstanding the great rise in the prices of every necessary of life, for several years past — They have submitted to a bare subsistence without complaint, from the Idea, that their Employment was permanent, while they behaved well, and that Peace and reduced prices of food, would give them an opportunity of making up former deficiencies - Add to this, that their constant habits in the Mint have made it difficult for them, at once, to return to their former occupations with advantage - If the Mint should be abolished, it will be some time before they can get again into full Employment, and of course must suffer essentially, even as to the necessary support.

The Director therefore submits their Case to VOL. II.



the consideration of Government, and does not doubt but some small provision will be made for them, in Case of their intire dismission from the public Service.

In this representation it is not meant to include the Director, Assayer or Treasurer, as neither of these depend on their Salaries for support — All which is respectfully submitted to the President by his Obedient humble Servant

ELIAS BOUDINOT Director.

The President of the United States. (Endorsed) BOUDINOT, ELIAS, Phil<sup>a</sup> Apr. 17, 1802. recd Apr 19.<sup>1</sup>

MR. BOUDINOT TO HIS EXCELLENCY THOMAS JEFFERSON. (Private.)

ROSEHILL, August 10th 1802.

Dear Sir

Knowing your fondness for Agriculture, and everything connected with it, tho' in a collateral respect, I take the liberty of troubling you, amidst the arduous affairs of government, with the following fact —

If it is new to you, your curiosity will be gratified; if not, the information you will be able to give me, as to the native soil of this production, will lay me under peculiar obligations —

In the fall of 1800, I was presented, at second hand, with a few quarts of an extraordinary wheat,

<sup>1</sup> MSS. Archives, Department of State, Washington, D. C., Jefferson papers, series 2, vol. viii. p. 33.

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