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AND QUERIES. EXTRA
NUMBERS - NO. 23-25**

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MAGAZINE OF HISTORY

WITH

NOTES AND QUERIES

Extra Number—No. 23



COMPRISING

AN IMPARTIAL REVIEW (1800) - - - *Charles Pettit*
THE GWIN FANCY-DRESS BALL (1858) - *John De S. Haviland*

WILLIAM ABBATT

410 EAST 32D STREET

NEW YORK

1913

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(As near a fac-simile of the original as possible.)

AN
IMPARTIAL REVIEW
OF THE
RISE AND PROGRESS
OF THE
CONTROVERSY BETWEEN THE PARTIES KNOWN
BY THE NAMES OF THE
FEDERALISTS & REPUBLICANS
CONTAINING

An investigation of the Radical Cause of Division; and of some of the Subordinate or
Auxiliary Causes which have been instrumental in Enlarging the Breach,
And inflaming The Minds of The Partizans

IN A SERIES OF LETTERS FROM
A Partaker in the American Revolution

(*CHARLES FETTIT*)

To A

JUNIOR CITIZEN

Philadelphia:

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No. 41, Chestnut-street

1800

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REPRINTED
WILLIAM ABBATT

1913

Being Extra No. 23 of THE MAGAZINE OF HISTORY WITH NOTES AND QUERIES

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

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CALIFORNIA

EDITOR'S PREFACE

The original of this political tract is very rare, and this is the first time it has been reprinted, or its author's name given.

Charles Pettit, (1736-1806,) a noted patriot of New Jersey, held various offices of trust before the Revolution, and in 1778 became assistant Quartermaster General of the army. He declined to succeed General Greene in the office of Quartermaster General. In 1785-87 he was a member of Congress, and held various positions of honor and trust in Philadelphia. He was the grandfather of Judge Thomas McKean.

LETTER I

WHEN, in compliance with your request, I promised to give you some information concerning the rise and progress of the party divisions prevailing in this country, I was not fully aware of the extent of the field it would lead me into, nor of the great variety of facts and circumstances necessarily involved in a due consideration of the subject. I had before thought of it but cursorily and in detached parts, as circumstances occasionally presented them to my view. To arrange and methodize the variety of matter necessary to give you a clear and concise view of the subject as it appears to me, would require more time and leisure than I can conveniently command. But as I mean not wholly to decline a compliance with my promise, I shall take the liberty of using a more desultory mode of communication than I at first intended, as I can borrow opportunity from other avocations. You have undoubtedly learned from traditional as well as from historical information, that when the people of America were roused to form combinations to resist the measures of the British government, they were not actuated by a dislike to the constitution, nor by disloyalty to the King, whose constitutional authority was as universally acknowledged and respected in this country as in many other parts of his dominions.

You have also learned from the same sources the causes of that resistance, which at length arose to a revolution and ended in an entire separation of the political connection which had before subsisted between the two countries, by the independency of the United States, finally established and confirmed by the treaty of peace in 1783.

But as the party divisions which are now so conspicuous amongst us extend their roots beyond the acknowledgment of our independency by Great Britain in 1783 or even our own declaration of it [in] 1776, it may be proper to trace some of the principal