

"ted such an intention, yet I was sensible that nothing could  
 "be better calculated both to cool the ardour of his friends,  
 " & inspire his enemies with confidence, than the belief  
 " that he had already selected his chief competitor for  
 " the highest <sup>office</sup> within his gift. I thought Gen. Jackson  
 " owed it to himself & to the cause in which his pol-  
 " itical friends were engaged, to contradict this re-  
 " port, & to declare that he would not appoint to that  
 " office the man however worthy he might be, who  
 " stood at the head of the most formidable party of his  
 " political enemies." \* From these assertions, it is  
 evident that Mr. Buchanan was not the bearer of any propo-  
 sition from Mr. Clay or his friends. He thought the report  
 in circulation, that Gen. Jackson, if elected, would nominate  
 Mr. Adams Secretary of State, would mar his interests  
 by convincing the friends of Mr. Clay, that if they support-  
 ed him, they had no reason to expect that Mr. Clay would be  
 designated for that office. It was known that Mr. Adams  
 had not said whom he would nominate if he were elected, &  
 it was Mr. Buchanan's opinion, that, in this, Mr. Adams had  
 the advantage over Gen. Jackson; for he thought that Mr.  
 Clay, with his friends, would naturally prefer voting for  
 Mr. Adams, from <sup>whom</sup> he had something to expect, to voting for  
 Gen. Jackson from whom he had nothing to expect. To place  
 the latter on an equality with the former, in relation to  
 Mr. Clay & his friends, by contradicting this rumour, and  
 saying that he would not nominate Mr. Adams, was  
 what Mr. Buchanan meant by "fighting them with their  
 " own weapons"; if he ever used such an expression. To  
 get authority directly from the General to contradict this  
 rumour so prejudicial to his interests, was the immed-  
 iate & sole object of Gen. <sup>Mr. Buchanan's</sup> ~~Jackson's~~ visit. But what  
 does the General himself say, in his state-  
 ment of this conversation? In substance,

\* See Buchanan's address.