Florence 1st. Decr. 1830.

Dear Sir

In answer to yours of this date, asking me to state the substance of the message, sent by Govr. Moore to you, by me, after he had an interview with the President of the United States, at Franklin Tennessee, in relation to the appointment of Marshal for the northern district of Alabama, I make you the following statement.

In August last I attended a treaty with the Chiefs of the Chickasaw Nation at Franklin Ten. The President of the United States, was there at the same time — A Gentl. from north Alabama, and a friend of mine, remarked to me that he had been informed, that the opponents of Col. McKinley had been trying to induce Govr. Moore, to offer for senator from our state, in the Congress of the U. States, at the then next ensuing election, in opposition to Col. McKinley — and as inducements for him to offer, they had told him, Govr. Moore, that the friends of Genl. Jackson in north Alabama were inimical to him, and that they were determined to try and prevent his reelection as Govr. of our state, that I (meaning myself) was to be brought out as his opponent, and the friends of Genl. Jackson was to rally their strength on me, and try to put him out of office — that Col. McKinley was one of those opposed to him, and would probably use his influence against the Govr. — My friend also informed me that

Gov. Moore had just arrived in Franklin — I determined to go directly and see the Gov. and correct the report, so far at least as respected myself, when we reached the house where the President resided at the time, I found Gov. Moore in company with several other Gentlm. seated in a shade in front of the house — I immediately asked the Gov. to walk with me, when I informed him what I had just heard, as before mentioned, he replied that I had been correctly informed, that he had been told those things, and that he had thought it unkind in Mr. Kirby, and from that and some other cause he was induced to believe that ~~he~~ Mr. Kirby was not friendly to him — the subject of Col. Mr. Kirby's not recommending Gov. Moore's Nephew to the President, for Marshal of North Alabama was mentioned, but I do not recollect, whether the Gov. or myself first named that subject, but he said that Mr. Kirby had promised him, to support his Nephew for that appointment, and he ~~then~~ now believed, he had deceived him, and had not recommended him, his Nephew to the President as he had promised him he would do. I informed Gov. Moore, that so much of the reports as related to myself, were false, and without a shadow of foundation, that I never had said, or thought of offering for that, or any other appointment, or office, in the State, and I then assured him, that he might rest satisfied that I would not be his opponent — I also told the Gov. that I had conversed

with Col. McKinley on the subject of his recommending his nephew, to the President for Marshal of North Alabama, and that McKinley had assured me, that he had recommended Young Mr. Moore, and that he had used his endeavours to procure for him that appointment, but the President had preferred another & would not confer the appointment on Young Mr. Moore. I then referred the Gov. to the President who was then in the house, he replied that he would speak to the President on that subject — we returned into the house, and the Gov. and the President were together some time in a room, I believe by themselves — when he came out, Gov. Moore asked me aside, when he informed me, that the President had assured him, that Col. McKinley had recommended his nephew, & supported him for the appointment, but the President had thought proper to appoint Mr. Patteson, in preference from his more advanced age and experience, and the recommendations & knowledge in his favour, or in substance to that effect — Gov. Moore then remarked to me — that while labouring under the belief that he had been deceived by Col. McKinley he had indulged in saying things of him, that he would not have done, had he have had the information which he had

just received from the President; and he regretted having said them, he remarked that he had never authorised any person to say, that he would be a candidate for the senate, in opposition to Col. McKinley — The Govr. then requested me to say to Col. McKinley when I saw him, that he would not be a candidate for the senate, [illegible] election, and that he might rest satisfied on that subject — When I returned to Florence I delivered the above Message to Col. McKinley, as near as possible, in the language of Govr. Moore; as it was then fresh in my memory — the Col. remarked that he was gratified to hear the Govr. Moore had been convinced of his error, that he had heard of some things which he had said of him, which he knew to be erroneous, and that he had intended to call on him, on that subject, but as he had sa=tisfied himself, he was the more gratified thereby — The foregoing is in substance, and expression, and meaning of what passed, as nearly correct, as I can state it at this day, and I feel no hesita=tion to say it is in substance correct —

Mc. Coffee

Col. John McKinley