

Chapter 1 : Editions of The Life and Correspondence of Rufus King, Volume V by Rufus King

The Life and Correspondence of Rufus King: Comprising His Letters, Private and Official, His Public Documents, and His Speeches, Volume 6 American culture series Library of American civilization.

In King family papers, Daniel Kilham concerning personal affairs and matters of contemporary diplomacy and politics including peace treaty with England, the Barbary powers, Spanish remonstrance against U. In Cyrus King papers, [ca. Connecticut Historical Society Papers: Hartford Seminary Foundation Papers: Diplomatic correspondence during his ministry at the Court of St. Historical Society of Pennsylvania Papers: In Joel Roberts Poinsett papers, Huguenot Historical Society Papers: In DeBois family papers, [ca. Letters to and from King. After , letters are primarily those of his widow written to her mother. Also correspondence in Alexander Hamilton papers, , and United States Constitution papers, Massachusetts Historical Society Papers: New Jersey Historical Society Papers: Correspondence in Stevens family papers, Letters, notes, accounts and miscellaneous items from his political and diplomatic career. Also correspondence, papers, and genealogical material in King family papers, In Goodhue family papers, [ca. Also in Alexander Hamilton papers, , on 46 microfilm reels of originals at Library of Congress. Oneida Historical Society Papers: In Ostrom family papers, Pierpont Morgan Library Papers: Queens Borough Public Library Papers: Includes letters from King to different individuals and a published engraving. Correspondence in Peter Van Gaasbeek papers, Concerns a turnpike from Brooklyn to Flatbush and Jamaica. Note to William V. Murray, American minister in The Hague.

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The object in view has been to show Mr. King in his daily life, and to present him as an able, wise and honest statesman, a true lover of his country, and a faithful guardian of her institutions, to the establishment of which he so largely contributed.

Rufus King Rufus King , American statesman and an important member of the Constitutional Convention of , typified the constructive conservatism of the Federalist party at its best. He served as a U. Rufus King was born in Scarborough, Maine, the son of a prosperous loyalist merchant whose house was twice ransacked by revolutionary mobs. Nevertheless, during the dramatic events leading to the Revolution, Rufus sympathized with the patriots, although he did not join Gen. He served briefly in the militia but devoted most of his energy to his studies. Admitted to the bar in , he quickly established a large and lucrative practice that he continued intermittently throughout his life. A year later he was elected a delegate to the Continental Congress , where he served for 3 years. He worked for enlarged powers for Congress and also sought to exclude slavery from the Northwest Territory. In he married Mary Alsop, the daughter of a wealthy New York merchant. He was appointed a Massachusetts delegate to the Constitutional Convention of , where he spoke often and eloquently in defense of a strong Federal government, the sanctity of contracts, and a government purged as much as possible of the slave interest. He fought every effort to "gut" the new Federal Constitution but remained willing to consider changes accommodating what various states considered their vital interests. King was elected a U. He coupled his political influence with expansion of his legal and commercial interests, becoming by the end of the century one of the wealthiest men in New York. Minister to Great Britain In King began 7 years of distinguished service in the critically important post of American minister to Great Britain. He played a key role in establishing what has been called the "First Rapprochement" between England and its former colonies. Though he defended American interests at every turn, his conciliatory manner gained him the confidence of a succession of English ministers and made him the main channel of communication between the two governments. Unsuccessful in both elections, he became a country gentleman, meanwhile serving as a trustee of Columbia College and supporting Trinity Episcopal Church. Return to the Senate King was reelected as U. August , King loyally marshaled Federalist support to rescue the nation from bankruptcy and strengthen its defense against expected further assault by the powerful British forces. However, he suffered a crushing defeat in the Electoral College. Reelected to the Senate, King supported some of the nationalist programs of the "new" Jeffersonian Republicans; but most memorably, he spoke out against admission of Missouri as a slave state in Hoping to stir the North against slavery and thus create an issue that could revive the fortunes of the Federalist party, he orated, cajoled, and intrigued to place firm legal restraints on the proslavery elements. His disappointment at the passage of the Missouri Compromise was followed by his failure to prevent the adoption of various democratizing reforms at the New York Constitutional Convention. In he resumed cordial relations with prominent Englishmen but achieved little success in his negotiations. Sick and disappointed, he returned to New York, where he died on April 29, Bradford Perkins, The First Rapprochement:

The life and correspondence of Rufus King; comprising his letters, private and official, his public documents, and his speeches Item Preview.

JSTOR is a not-for-profit service that helps scholars, researchers, and students discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content in a trusted digital archive. We use information technology and tools to increase productivity and facilitate new forms of scholarship. The monograph throws much new light on the real nature of the confederation, and shows the inherent weakness of that form of government. The lack of executive and judicial power during those important years not only prevented the development of a good financial administration and left its traces upon the Constitution of 1787, but also influenced, in a marked degree, the later practices under that constitution. Among the more important things emphasized by the author are the facts, first, that a lack of taxing power led inevitably to dependence on bills of credit and that the ease with which these could be issued prevented any feeling of responsibility for a budget in which income and expenditure were balanced; and, second, the result of this is our great dependence on indirect taxation to this day. On the whole, the essay is a careful, conscientious, successful piece of work, and a contribution to our knowledge of this very critical period of our national life. A little more care in proof-reading for a single example see line 4, page 10 would have made the volume much more attractive in appearance. Life and Correspondence of Rufus King. The man was notable because of many high qualities and wide experience in public life. Without the constructive brilliancy of Hamilton, or the destructive capacity of Jefferson, or the critical ability of Madison, King deservedly takes a high rank as a man of action, trained intelligence, and great common sense. Monroe was misled by his sympathies, and at a critical juncture permitted his feelings to govern his head. The result was a serious menace to the safety of the newly constituted United States, and this overzealous agent was properly disgraced. With quite as delicate questions to manage, and with sentimental predispositions quite as strong, King succeeded in everything he attempted, and in everything left the impress of a clear and far-sighted statesman. This content downloaded from 128.112.1.104 Tue, 20 Jun 2017 12:54:45 UTC All use subject to [http://about.jstor.org/terms](#) Life and Correspondence of Rufus King was due, in great part, to his training and associations. A lawyer by profession, he had served in the Continental Congress before that body had sunk into contempt and lost all power of submitting recommendations acceptable to the states. His labors in the Constitutional Convention trained his political sense, and a long term in the Federal Senate, during a critical period of domestic policy, brought him into close association with the leading men of the day, whose influence he felt and reflected. The second volume of this correspondence covers a part of his services in the Senate and in London. Much of the purely official interchange of despatches between King and the Department of State has been published in the State Papers; but that often meagre and formal record is supplemented by his private correspondence, now printed for the first time. The value and interest of these letters it would be difficult to exaggerate. The free expressions of such men as Gore, Cabot, Sedgwick, Troup, and Noah Webster, on political thought and intrigue, are historical records, all the more valuable because brought together in one volume. In describing the passing phases of party movements, they throw light on public policy and individual motives. The questions of neutrality, citizenship, impressments, commercial systems and treaties, French and English depredations on American commerce, the progress of French conquests and the rise of Napoleon, the rebellion in Ireland, the uprising of Toussaint, and the attitude of the United States to possible republics in South America and the West Indies—these are a few of the matters touched upon in these letters, and always in a serious and thoughtful tone. England proposes joint action in the formation of independent republics in South America, and sees in them a means of checking the French advance towards any foothold in America. Pitt proposes that the United States and England form a "combine" in sugar, and, possibly, in coffee; for the trade in those articles was monopolized by the two countries. King favors a treaty of commerce with the Porte, and England and Russia proffer their good offices and influence in the matter. France is all for gain, and having forced the United States to denounce existing treaties with her, preys upon its commerce, rejects its ministers, and refuses to negotiate without bribes even more immoral than the piracies of the Barbary States. Through an American

Vans Murray , France makes advances to England for a hearing and possible diplomatic intercourse. This content downloaded from The editing by Dr. King is judicious, accurate, and praiseworthy for its reserve. A new edition, now first reprinted in full from the original of 1810, with copious critical commentary, memoir of Pike, new map and other illustrations, and complete index. In August of the year following Lieutenant Pike, at the head of twenty soldiers, was despatched from St. Louis to the sources of the Mississippi. At Prairie du Chien, - the only white village on his route, - he met, in council, the Chippewas, urged them to expel whiskey-sellers, and induced them to turn back from the war-path on which they had entered against the Sioux. At the Falls of St. Anthony he bought of Indians a site he had selected for a fort, sealing the contract with sixty gallons of whiskey. At Little Falls, not far south of the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad, he built a stockade and left in it seven of his command. This water he viewed, and rightly, as "the main [that is, most voluminous] source of the Mississippi. He extorted from natives divers British medals, made British fur-traders promise that they would give them no more, and would themselves pay duties on the goods they had hitherto smuggled. On the last of April Pike and his party had descended the river and were in the camp which had been their starting-point. Ten weeks later Pike set forth on another expedition. Its primary object was restoring to the Osages, on their great river, some fifty Osage captives redeemed by our government from Indian foes. Thence he went north to the Republican River in Nebraska, then south to the Arkansas and up it till his way was hedged up by the Royal Gorge. Turning northwest, he discovered and measured the peak that bears his name, and came upon a watercourse which he thought the Red River, but which, as he at last learned, was in fact the Arkansas. Going south-ward, he struck the Rio del Norte, which he believed, or said that he believed, to be the Red River. Captured by Spaniards, he was carried as a mysterious personage to Santa Fe, to Chihuahua, the provincial capital, This content downloaded from Problems in Early Western History [pp.

Chapter 4 : KING, Rufus - Biographical Information

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By: King, Rufus, Published: () Speech of the Hon. Rufus King in the Senate of the United States, March 18, , on a motion that the several amendments before the Senate respecting the election of the President of the United States, be indefinitely postponed.

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