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Tendencies during the Confederation Period

Jeremiah Wadsworth to Alexander Hamilton Hartford, Conn., 26 August 1787

I recd your favor this day with the inclosed Copy of a letter said to be circulating in this State. Some time since a Paragraph in the New Haven Paper hinted at such a letter, & appeared to be written to scare the antifederal Party or alarm them—and I believed it was well intended as it seemed to be meant to prepare them to comply with the doings of the convention, least worse befell them—but the close of this letter appears to be calculated for other purposes. Witmore has always associated with Men who wished well to America & a good Government. he is half Brother to the Spirited federal Writer in our papers who Signs him selfe Cato¹—and if he has really written or circulated the letter in question I am quite at a loss to know his intentions—I have communicated this matter to Col Humphry in confidence who is on his way to New Haven (where Witmore lives tho formerly of Stratford) he will enquire carefully into ye matter & write you. he has lived in the same house with Witmore & can easily fathom him—Witmore is naturally sanguine has some tallents & I believe is enterprizing—but fickel. Who the Active people in this business are I have Yet to learn as it certainly has not circulated hereabout. But from Humphry you may expect to know all that is true in Witmores neighborhood—I have always been Humphrys friend—but a nearer acquaintance with him Convince me he is a Man of great integrity and such talents as would wear well in any employment of consequence—if he comes to New York I wish you to be more Acquainted with him.

1. Wetmore's half-brother was William P. Beers.

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