Dec. 27 1796

remorse or fear. You will perhaps stare when I advance
him opinion that the Government of France has sent
ries to this Country for the express purpose of corrupting
ple to Deism. And lobby. Because our people will in
case soon lose their republican virtue, and France will
by intrigues and bribery to govern our politics.

I promised occasionally to give you ~~some~~
account of the proceeding of the Society, and as something
interesting has lately happened the remainder of this letter
be occupied in relating it to you. Towards the close of the
Session two parties begin to be formed. At the beginning of the
Session several of the members predicted that we should
tom by faction. An event soon happened which divided
Society and fired the parties in battle array against
another. John and William Alston brothers of Joseph
Alston, John Forsyth and Frederick Nash were proposed
admission. The ~~[illegible]~~ request of John Alston came on first, the
Class unanimously declared him to be a bad scholar
unworthy of a seat. The proposal for his admission
then withdrawn, as was also that for the admission
brother. The request of John Forsyth was next consider
when four persons Bailey, Peyton, Jackson and Alston
dently actuated by motives of revenge, spoke against
This brought on a very lengthy and interesting debate.
presence of the Class and of the oldest members was
highly in Forsyth's favor. We at length prevailed upon
Nash to withdraw his opposition, and upon Bailey & Pe

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