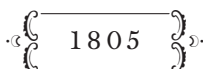


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THE PAPERS OF THOMAS JEFFERSON



From Thomas Appleton

SIR

Leghorn 6th. July 1805.

My last respects were in date of the 1st. of May by a vessel bound to New York, on board of which I have shipped ten Cases of Montepulciano wine, to the care of Mr. Gelston collector for that port.—By much accident I very lately became acquainted, that Madame Fabroni of florence had receiv'd a letter from Madame Cerrachi at Vienna, describing the deplorable condition she was in, burthen'd with five young children.—She had at the same time not fail'd to state how great were her claims on our gouvernement for the labours her husband had perform'd in America.—Madame Fabroni prompted more by the sentiments of commisseration, than guided by the dictates of her understanding, had compos'd a very long letter, and address'd to you, proposing a most inadmissable plan to alleviate the miseries of Madame Cerrachi, which I shall not however trouble you now to relate.—on receiving this intelligence I lost no time in translating the statement I receiv'd in your letter, as if it were the result of my own enquiries in the U:States, in consequence of her application to me about 18 months since.—this I have address'd to her, open, and under cover to Mr. fabroni, who will of course make known to his wife the purport of it, and afterwards forward to Vienna.—I hope by this means to satisfy Madame fabroni of the impropriety of the Steps she had intended as likewise to silence the pretensions of Madme. Cerrachi.—Your letter of the 10h. of March, covering one for Mr. Mazzei reach'd my hands on the 28h. of June, and the next day I deliver'd personally the inclosure.—The request of Mr. La Trobe will doubtless be complied with by Mr. Mazzei, though I apprehend he will be oblig'd to make a journey to Rome to accomplish the object of it.—the part Mr. La Trobe has confided to me, being simply to procure passages for the workmen, and the money necessary for their expences, I shall punctually attend to.—

6 JULY 1805

It is with infinite concern that I have been inform'd of the almost certain loss of the Schooner John Adams, Captain Ramsdell, who sail'd from this port on the 7h. of September last for Philadelphia.— On board of this vessel went passenger Mr. Timpanaro Viganò, a young man endow'd with the rarest talents, and the highest cultivated understanding. he had distinguish'd himself during the struggles for liberty in Lombardy, and having been employ'd by President Melzi as a diplomatick agent near the King of Naples, he became a victim to the fury of that sovereign, from the moment the french were compell'd to abandon the Kingdom.— they Cast him into a small subterraneous dungeon, without even the light of a lamp during four years—in this space of time he endur'd incredible hardships and many malignant fevers.—depriv'd of all medical assistance, nevertheless he rejected with disdain every offer for his enlargement, as it must have been purchas'd by Renouncing those principles for which he then suffer'd.—

on a return of french influence, he gain'd his liberty, and Retir'd to Milan; but as he very shortly foresaw that he must Relinquish either his principles or his country, he hesitated not which to abandon, and gave up the latter, though his prospects of fortune were considerable, and he was allied in freindship with men of the highest merit in the Republic.—President Melzi order'd Mr. Est Tassoni his minister at florence to apply to me for a letter which would present Mr. Viganò to your personal Acquaintance. I conceiv'd it my duty to comply with a request from a person of his Eminent rank, which on no other consideration should I have assumed.

I now inclose you Sir, a copy of the letter I gave in charge to Mr. Viganò, by which you will perceive my opinion at that time of his objects in America.—the late Arrestation of two american Citizens in Milan will perhaps apologize for the length of my present letter, as it seem'd necessary to mention again a principal object with which Mr. Viganò was charg'd by his government; and likewise furnishes a new example of the Utility which would arise, from having an American resident in that city, to Recognize our Citizens who are very frequently crossing the Continent of Europe on their commercial Concerns, in preference of making the immense circuit by Sea.—I have sent to Malta for more of the yellow:cotton:seed which I shall take the liberty of sending to you as Soon as they are receiv'd.—I have the honor to be with very sincere respect Your most devoted Servant

TH: APPLETON

RC (DLC); at foot of text: "Thomas &c"; endorsed by TJ as received 28 Oct. Jefferson. esq. President of the U:States. and so recorded in SJL. FC (Lb in DNA:

6 JULY 1805

RG 84, CR, Leghorn); dated 5 July; at foot of text: "Sent by the Schooner Abeona Capt. Clark for providence the 8. July"; with variations in wording. Enclosure: Appleton to TJ, 2 Sep. 1804.

For the desire of Benjamin H. Latrobe (LATROBE) to find an Italian sculptor, see TJ to Appleton, 10 Mch.

LATE ARRESTATION: Nathaniel Amory, a Boston merchant, and Samuel Purviance of the Leghorn firm of Degen, Purviance, & Company were arrested in Milan before the coronation of Napoleon as king of Italy on 26 May (Madison, *Papers, Sec. of State Ser.*, 10:22-4; RS, 9:673n).

From William C. C. Claiborne

DEAR SIR,

New Orleans July 6th. 1805

I have this day received from on Board a Barge, Several Trunks & Boxes directed to you; one Cage with four Birds, and a Small living Animal, somewhat resembling our common gray Squirrel. They were sent by Captain Lewis to Mr. Chauteau of St Louis, and by him transmitted to me. Finding that some of the Trunks and Boxes contained Peltry of various kinds, I had them opened. The skins had been wet, and were a little injured, but by being carefully dried in the Sun, cleansed, and put up in Barrells, I am advised, that they may be preserved.

I received no particular Memorandum of the contents of the Boxes, but I find that many of the skins are numbered, and of course I conclude, that Mr. Lewis's communication relating thereto, has been forwarded to you from St. Lewis. The little Animal seems to be sick, and I fear will not live; The Birds are well and have excellent appetites;—I shall be very careful of them, and propose forwarding the whole to Baltimore by the ship Comet, that will probably sail from this Port in fifteen days!

I am D Sir with great respect Your faithful friend

WILLIAM C. C. CLAIBORNE

RC (DLC); in a clerk's hand, signed by Claiborne; at foot of text: "Thomas Jefferson President of the United States"; endorsed by TJ as received 16 Aug. and so recorded in SJL.

SENT BY CAPTAIN LEWIS: see Meriwether Lewis to TJ, 7 Apr.

From DeWitt Clinton

DEAR SIR

New York 6 July 1805

Absence from this place at and a considerable time after the arrival of your letter of the 12th. June has prevented an earlier answer.

Le Blanc's letter to you was no doubt the last effort of a knave to screen himself from merited punishment. He was convicted upon an indictment for counterfeiting and is now in our state prison for life: I have learnt the above from the Attorney General without mentioning your name.

I am sure I shall not be considered intrusive in taking this opportunity of presenting to your consideration some suggestions respecting inconveniences which neutral merchants and others very frequently sustain from the Admiralty Courts of the Belligerent Nations and an adequate preventive or remedy.

A vessel & cargo are insured & warranted american property—They are condemned by one of the hostile courts for contravening some article of treaty, or law of nations or occasional instructions on a point perfectly consistent with the Warranty, but the Judge thinks fit to state in his decree (what was in no respect the question before the Court) that they were enemy's property at the time of the capture: on this sentence the Insurer refuses payment and a lawsuit necessarily arises which would never have been dreamt of, if the true grounds of the condemnation had been stated. In this State and I believe in some of the others, the truth of the allegation may be enquired into, foreign sentences being considered *prima facie* not conclusive evidence of the facts they assert—but the expence & trouble of the lawsuit must be encountered and evidence procured to disprove the allegation which is oftentimes very difficult.—And if the property be insured in Great Britain, the American Citizen is without redress, for in that Country Admiralty sentences are considered conclusive. Would it not then be worthy of your administration to apply to the belligerents for instructions to their maritime Courts to set forth *the true causes of condemnation* and no other. As those Courts are very much directed by the orders of their governments, there can be no doubt of their prompt obedience and there can also be little doubt but that very great benefits would result to our Merchants

I have the honor to be With the most respectful attachment Your most Obedt servt

DEWITT CLINTON

RC (DLC); at foot of text: "The President of the United States"; endorsed by TJ as received 11 July and so recorded in

SJL; notation on verso in Jacob Wagner's hand: "The Treaty with France stipulates what is here suggested. French decrees

6 JULY 1805

also insert the cause of condemnation— The instructions for a Convention with G.B. have anticipated the suggestion but it may not be amiss to claim an immediate order to the British Courts—In general the the British sentences condemn.

‘as enemy’s property *or other wise liable.*’ The cases referred may there fore be singular ones.”

LE BLANC’S LETTER: J. Athanasius Le Blanc to TJ, 4 June.

To Dorcas Osgood Marble Dearborn

July 6. 05.

Th: Jefferson presents his friendly & respectful salutations to mrs Dearborne. thinking she appeared pleased with the taste of the Tokay wine, & wishing to avail himself of every opportunity of doing what may be agreeable to her, he sends her three bottles of which he asks the favor of her acceptance. he wishes he could have enlarged this offering to her friendship; but it is the half of what he has.

RC (MH); addressed: “Mrs. Dearborne”; endorsed. Not recorded in SJL.

Dorcas Osgood Marble Dearborn (1752-1810) of Andover, Massachusetts, was a widow with two daughters when she became the second wife of Henry Dearborn in 1780. She was a fixture in capital society during her husband’s cabinet years, a “plain, unpolished, but honest woman” who, according to Louisa Catherine Adams, thoroughly enjoyed Washington’s routine of parties and receptions

(Anthony Mitchell Sammarco, *Forest Hills Cemetery* [Charleston, S.C., 2009], 13; William H. Smith, “Gen. Henry Dearborn: A Genealogical Sketch,” *Maine Historical and Genealogical Recorder*, 3 [1886], 5; Everett Somerville Brown, ed., *William Plumer’s Memorandum of Proceedings in the United States Senate, 1803-1807* [New York, 1923], 556; Judith S. Graham and others, eds., *Diary and Autobiographical Writings of Louisa Catherine Adams*, 2 vols. [Cambridge, Mass., 2013], 1:220).

To Lewis Deblois

SIR

Washington July 6. 05.

My servant Joseph having informed me that there was a coal vessel in Alexandria which would probably return to Richmond I now send a number of boxes &c which I must ask the favor of you to have consigned by her to messrs. Gibson & Jefferson of Richmond, freight to be paid there.

I send also a small box for a different destination. it is for Commodore Preble, and contains an instrument of value, which would be much injured by wet, & therefore should be placed in some favorable position in the vessel. should no vessel be going from Alexandria to Portland, the residence of the Commodore I presume if it were sent to Portsmouth, or even to Boston, he would readily get it. I have taken

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the liberty of putting it under your care, believing you are best informed of the vessels bound to that quarter. Accept my salutations & assurances of respect

TH: JEFFERSON

PoC (MHi); at foot of text: "Mr. Deblois"; endorsed by TJ.

To William Jarvis

SIR

Washington July 6. 05.

Since my letters of the 19th. & 20th. of July 1804. I have recieved your favors of Oct. 6. Nov. 14. 25. Dec. 3. 1804. & May 15. 1805. as also some articles of fruits &c. for which I pray you to accept my acknowledgements. the pipe of Arruda wine came also safely to hand, and is indeed of very superior quality. I should be glad to recieve always of exactly the same quality, adhering to the rule of putting no brandy to them. I had been for some time expecting your draught for the amount; but as you mention in your last that when you forward another pipe you will draw for both, I shall hold myself in readiness, and will be glad the wine could come out in autumn, so as to be here before the winter sets in.

It gives me much pleasure to see a hope that Portugal may be able to preserve her neutrality. that a government so just & inoffensive should be forced into a war with which it has nothing to do, shews the most profligate disregard to human rights. it is a great felicity to us, and it secures all our other felicities, that so wide an ocean is spread between us & the lions & tygers of Europe, as enables us to go forward in the path of justice and independance fearing nothing but our creator. the great powers of Europe could do us injury by sea & on our shores. but the spirit of independance in the country at large they can never bend. we are now suffering from privateers on our coast, and are therefore fitting out a naval force to go & force them to keep a reasonable distance from our shores.

Capt Lewis who has been sent to explore the Missouri to it's source, & thence to pursue the nearest water communication to the South sea, passed the last winter among the savages 1600. miles up the Missouri. deputies from the great nations in that quarter (2500. miles from hence) are now on their way to visit us. Lewis finds the Indians every where friendly. he will probably get back in 1806. Accept my friendly salutations and assurances of respect

RC (Sotheby's Catalogue, Item No. 168, New York City, 20 June 2003); addressed: "William Jarvis esq. Consul for the US. of America Lisbon." PoC (DLC); endorsed by TJ.

To Dolley Payne Todd Madison

July 6. 05

Th: Jefferson presents his affectionate salutations to mrs Madison & thinks the case she shewed him the other day (with ear-rings & a pin) will answer mrs Randolph's views. he begs leave to remind her of the request for such a comb exactly as she sent before. he sollicitis her on his own account, whenever she shall happen to be shopping, to get a garment for him to present to Virginia, another to Anne, and one for Ellen & Cornelia. the two last may be of one piece. mrs Madison knows better how to please the respective parties than Th:J. does. what she got for Anne on a former occasion was particularly gratifying to her. mrs Madison will be so good as to direct the shopkeepers to send their bills to Th:J. for payment

RC (Jacques de Bon, Geneva, Switzerland, 1952). Not recorded in SJL.

SOLLICITS HER: Madison honored TJ's request despite an ulcerated knee. "I shall ride to the stores," she wrote to her sister, Anna Payne Cutts, on 8 July, "but cannot get out to shop for them—very little variety in G. Town but I must do my best"

(ViU). On 12 July, TJ paid John Cox of Georgetown \$12.50 for five yards of lace muslin (receipt in MHi, dated 9 July, in an unidentified hand, signed by John Cox, endorsed by TJ with notation "12.50"; MB, 2:1159). On that same date he paid \$36 to Edward L. Smith, also for muslin, and \$7 to Marie Ann Pic for a "comb &c." (same).

To Edward Preble

SIR

Washington July 6. 05

I have recieved by Capt Tingey the hogshead of Marsalla wine you were so kind as to send me, for which I pray you to accept my thanks. altho' not yet fined (which operation I always leave to time) I percieve it is an excellent wine, and well worthy of being laid in, in stock to acquire age. gratified by this mark of your attention, it was natural for me to feel a wish to give you a proof of it by something which might administer to your convenience. the Polygraph lately invented in our country, & as yet little known, cannot fail to do this. you write much, move about much, & must of course find convenience in a portable secretary, which will copy all your letters, & keep secret their contents. I have had one made by mr Peale, of the most portable size, which I have this day sent to mr Deblois of Alexandria, to be forwarded to you by some vessel, as a carriage in the stage, might derange something about it. of this I ask the favor of your acceptance. your turn for mechanics will render pleasing to you those little attentions necessary in the use of the instrument. you are not one of those who

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will not take time to learn what will save time. I have used one the last 18. months, and can truly say that it is an inestimable invention. the copying press is a very poor thing in comparison with it. I inclose you directions for opening and setting it to work, which, at the same time give a specimen of it's execution. Accept my friendly salutations & assurances of great esteem & respect.

TH: JEFFERSON

PoC (DLC); at foot of text: "Commodore Preble." Enclosure not found.

HOGSHEAD OF MARSALLA: see TJ to Robert Smith, 31 May.

THE POLYGRAPH: on 24 June, Preble wrote to Robert Smith to report that he had not yet heard from TJ regarding his acceptance of the marsala wine. Smith re-

plied on 3 July that the delay was likely due to TJ "having in this instance departed from what he had prescribed to himself as a Law," and that the president had proposed to send Preble a polygraph as a reciprocal gift. On 12 July, Preble responded that such a present would "afford me the highest degree of satisfaction" (all in DLC: Edward Preble Papers).

To Anne Cary Randolph

MY DEAREST ANNE

Washington July 6. 05.

I do not know whether it is owing to your laziness or mine that our letters have been so long intermitted. I assure you it is not to my want of love to you, and to all of those about you, whose welfare I am always so anxious to learn. but it is useless to discuss old bankrupt scores. we will therefore burn our old accounts, and begin a new one on the 1st. day of October next.

I have expected to be able to set out for Monticello on Monday the 15th. but as I have not yet recieved Capt. Lewis's letters and the Western mail will not come in till Tuesday morning the 16th. very possibly I may not be able to set out till that or even the next day Wednesday. in the last case Ellen will not be able to go to bed for three nights, lest I should catch her there. it is possible the letters may come sooner in which case I see nothing to hinder my setting out on the Monday. you will be able to give me an account of your stewardship of the fowls. I expect but a short one from Ellen. I inclose a letter from Dr. Mitchell in answer to one which accompanied a packet from your Papa. deliver my endearments to all the family, and above all to your mama: and accept kisses & salutations for yourself.

TH: JEFFERSON

RC (NNPM); addressed: "Miss Anne C. Randolph Edgehill near Milton"; franked and postmarked. PoC (CSmH). Enclosure not found.

children, see TJ to Martha Jefferson Randolph, 6 Nov. 1804, and Ellen Wayles Randolph to TJ, 22 Feb. 1805.

PACKET FROM YOUR PAPA: see TJ to Samuel Latham Mitchill, 21 May.

STEWARDSHIP OF THE FOWLS: for the bantam chickens TJ sent to his grand-

From John Rhea

DEAR SIR,

Sullivan Courthouse July 6th. 1805

Your Letter of the 13th. of June last arrived at the office here last week, but by reason of my absence was not received until this day—the information, thereby conveyed, which you have honored me with, is to me extremely acceptable, commanding my sincere gratitude and acknowledgment—and I have no hesitation to think that the reception of the renewing commission will have a due and proper effect—

Since my letter of the twenty fourth of May—I had the pleasure of addressing one to You from Hawkins Courthouse—, it contained some little statement of a conversation between Mr Duffield and me at that place—also of his departure from that place for Orleans, and inclosed a certain paper—which letter, I anxiously hope, has arrived to You—

I feel the force of what You request in your letter—I have already began the enquiry, the inclosure in my last, is the effect in one place,—and I have good hopes, of being able to remove any yet remaining unfavorable impression respecting Mr Duffield which hath been made by the information given to You.

I was lately at Knoxville, but did not see Mr Tremble, he was absent attending a court—

I have the honor to be with the most sincere esteem and respect
Your Obedient Servant

JOHN RHEA

RC (DLC); at foot of text: “Thomas Jefferson Esqr The President of the United States”; endorsed by TJ as received 2 Aug. and so recorded in SJL.

ONE TO YOU FROM HAWKINS COURTHOUSE: Rhea to TJ, 29 May.

EFFECT IN ONE PLACE: Rhea wrote and circulated at least two additional attestations regarding George Duffield’s integrity and sobriety, each virtually identical to the

testimonial enclosed in his 29 May letter to TJ. One of the documents, undated, was signed by state senator John Gass and 15 other leading residents of Greene County (MS in DNA: RG 59, LAR; endorsed by TJ: “Duffield, George”). A second, dated August 1805, was signed by James Aiken, clerk of the superior court for Washington District, and 12 other leading residents of Washington County (MS in same).

To Robert Williams

DEAR SIR

Washington July 6. 05.

Your favor of May 15. came to hand some days ago. mr Madison’s dispatches by the last post will have substantially answered the most important part of it. insubordination and opposition will be tolerated as little in whigs as in tories. at the same time it is very afflicting to

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me to see those who have been useful in restoring the ascendancy of the whig principles of our constitution schismatise on grounds which they cannot honorably explain. we must disarm them of the aid of office in doing mischief, but otherwise treat them with all the indulgence due to separated brethren. with respect to Federalists, whether they are in opposition because hostile to the principles of our constitution or to the measures of it's administration legislative & executive, we must not strengthen the effect of their opposition by the weight of office. in the first case their wish is to overthrow the constitution: in the 2d. to defeat & disgrace the measures & persons they dislike. in neither case are they to be trusted. disaffected men ought to be satisfied with the protection of the laws honestly extended to them. they ought not to expect the confidence of a government to which they know themselves hostile.

Your request to visit N. Carolina is entirely reasonable. the time is left to yourself, according to your own knolege of the state of things as they respect the office of Governor or of Commissr. mr Jones having declined the office of judge in the Misipi territory, George Mathews junr. of the same state (Georgia) has been appointed, and, as we have reason to believe, will accept. I tender you my friendly salutations & assurances of great esteem & respect.

TH: JEFFERSON

PoC (DLC); at foot of text: "Governor Williams."

FAVOR OF MAY 15: that is, Williams to TJ, 17 May.

To Caspar Wistar

DEAR SIR

Washington July 6. 05.

I inclose you a pamphlet from mr Biot a member of the National institute which he desires to have presented to the society. I inclose also his letter containing a request, which perhaps was meant to be addressed to the members individually, or such of them as might have an opportunity of making the observations he wishes for. Accept my friendly salutations & assurances of esteem & respect.

TH: JEFFERSON

RC (PPAmP); at foot of text: "Dr. Wistar"; endorsed for the American Philosophical Society as read at a meeting of 19 July. PoC (DLC); endorsed by TJ. Enclosure: Jean Baptiste Biot to TJ, 29 Apr., with enclosure.

To Nathaniel Ellicott

SIR

Washington June [i.e. July] 7. 05

I have just recieved your favor of the 5th. instant. I have for some time been anxious to find the shortest way across the state of Virginia, through the middle counties to the Southern states, being persuaded 50. miles might be saved to the mail & the traveller & a better road obtained. I am totally indifferent to all the intermediate interests, having only the simple object of getting the best road. the one you propose offers an advantage which I have not yet found in any, less hill in passing the waters of Occoquan. I apprehend you will lose in distance, & what is more important that there may be more hills after passing the Occoquan. from Slate run church to the Rapidan there is not a single hill. if we could get from the Occoquan mills pretty early into the Slate run church road, we might still have the benefit of much of that road. I leave this from the 15th. to the 17th. & will make my first day's stage to the Occoquan mills, presuming I may reach mr Strode's the next day. I shall then be glad to recieve any information on the subject and to concur in any arrangement which may produce the object of obtaining the best road possible. Accept my salutations & respects.

TH: JEFFERSON

PoC (DLC); at foot of text: "Mr. Ellicott"; endorsed by TJ and recorded in SJL as a letter of 7 July.

In his financial memoranda, TJ recorded paying 75 cents for the toll at OCCOQUAN on 15 July (MB, 2:1160).

From Philippe Reibelt

MONSIEUR LE PRESIDENT!

Baltimore le 7 Juill. 1805.

Venant d'apprendre qu'on est a renouveler l'Ameublement du Palais Presidential—j'ose Vous prier, d'y recevoir de mon Magazin (parceque ce seroit la meilleure exhibition) quelques echantillons d'une nouvelle invention d'un peintre celebre a Bâsle, de copier les principaux Ouvrages des Anciens d'une manière aussi parfaite, qu'il est même aux Connaisseurs difficile, de distinguer ces Copies de leurs Originaux. Je Vous en recomanderais 4 paires, dont les originaux sont de Van Berghem, C. Lorrain, Louthembourg, Dujardin et Both (le Sujet Commune desquels est la Matinée et la Soirée) qui se vendent en Europe a 250 Gourdes ensemble, et l'encadrement desquels, executè ici, revient tout près a 80 Gourdes. Je Vous les enverrais d'abord a l'examen prealable, et si Vous les jugez dignes de la reception, Vous choisirez, si elles ne Vous conviennent pas toutes, çelles auxquelles

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Vous donnerez la preference, et Vous en fixerez le prix Vous même.—
Daignez entrevoir, que mon but principal est l'exhibition favorable au
debit ulterieur.

Mr. Du Catel, duquel je Vous ai deja parlè a l'occasion du petit
Mais, desire fortement de pouvoir Vous presenter ses hommages per-
sonnellement a Federal City; —m'ayant invitè, de l'y accompagner—Je
Vous en demande la permission pour lui et pour Moi.

Veillez agreer mes tout profonds respects. REIBELT.

E D I T O R S ' T R A N S L A T I O N

MISTER PRESIDENT!

Baltimore, 7 July 1805

Having just learned that the presidential palace is about to be renovated, I dare beg you to accept some samples from my store, since this is the best way to display them. They are a new design from a famous Basel painter who copies the principal classical works so perfectly that even experts have trouble distinguishing the copies from the originals. I recommend four pairs, whose originals are by Berghem, Claude Lorrain, Louthembourg, Dujardin, and Both. Their common theme is morning and evening. The set sells for \$250 in Europe while the framing, done here, comes to about \$80. I could send them for your examination, and if you found them acceptable you could decide. If all were not suitable, you could select the ones you preferred and set the price yourself. Please understand that my principal goal is to show them to you in view of a later delivery.

Mr. Ducatel, whom I have previously mentioned in reference to corn, would very much like to present his regards in person in the federal city. He invited me to accompany him, and I ask your permission for both of us.

Please accept my deepest respect. REIBELT.

RC (DLC); endorsed by TJ as received
8 July and so recorded in SJL.

artist who also worked as an art dealer
and publisher (Jane Turner, ed., *The Dic-
tionary of Art*, 34 vols. [New York, 1996],
4:84).

PEINTRE ÇELEBRE A BÂSLE: possibly
Peter Birmann, a Basel-based landscape

From William C. C. Claiborne

DEAR SIR,

July 8th. 1805 At Nw. Orleans

I am this moment honer'd with your Letter of the 26th. of May, and will reply particularly to it, by the Post next ensuing. The Mail arrived in a disordered state; many of the Letters were wet, (as was the packet directed to me) but I do not learn, that any were lost. Your Letter to Doctor Sibley, I shall forward to Nachitoches on Tomorrow.—The little animal mentioned in my Letter of the 6th is now much better

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in health, & I hope will live.—The Peltry has been aired, cleansed, & will on this Day be repacked.

I am Dr Sir, With great respect yr faithful friend

WILLIAM C. C. CLAIBORNE

RC (DLC); endorsed by TJ as received
16 Aug. and so recorded in SJL.

LETTER TO DOCTOR SIBLEY: TJ to
John Sibley, 27 May.

Invoice from Benjamin King

[ca. 8 July 1805]

Account of Work & materials for Making 1.

Fire Engine for the President

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Laurence Hays 14 Days work at \$1.81— | \$25.34 |
| Jas. King 15 $\frac{3}{4}$ Do — 106— | 16.69 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Willm Smith 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ Do 181— | 9.50 |
| Willm Sanderson 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ Do 106— | 1.53 |
| P. Prevot $\frac{1}{2}$ Do — 181— | 90 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " 150 lb of Bar Iron. at 6 Cents— | 9.00 |
| " Wood work of Box— | 18.00 |
| " Brass for Cylinders 58 lb @15— | 8.70 |
| " 20 lb of Copper for Air Vessel @ 50— | 10.00 |
| " Brass Cotten for Do 10 lb @ 15— | 1.50 |
| " 15 Bushels of Coal @ 25— | 3.75 |
| " Painting Do— | 5.00 |
| " Leather for Do— | 1.50 |
| " Plank for Do— | 4.00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$115.42 |

MS (MH*i*); undated, but see below; endorsed by TJ with notation "Benjamin King."

Benjamin King (ca. 1754-1840) was master blacksmith at the Washington navy yard. Born in the British Isles, King worked in Scottish ironworks before joining the French republican army and eventually finding his way to the United States. Benjamin Henry Latrobe relied on him for a number of projects at the President's House and the Capitol. Latrobe wrote of King that, although he had a "strange wildness" to his temper, he was the most talented man at the navy yard, the last resort "of all the Officers and artizans in

every difficult undertaking, and is seldom found at a loss." King was also an inventor. He held a patent for an improved method of working with iron plates and corresponded with TJ in 1822 about two farming machines he had designed (*Philadelphia North American and Daily Advertiser*, 16 Sep. 1840; Edward C. Carter and others, eds., *The Journals of Benjamin Henry Latrobe*, 3 vols. [1977-80], 3:67-9; *City of Washington Gazette*, 22 Aug. 1818; King to Madison, 22 June 1836, in DLC: Madison Papers; King to TJ, 2 Dec. 1822, in DLC).

According to TJ's financial records, he paid King for the FIRE ENGINE on 8 July (MB, 2:1158).

Notes on a Cabinet Meeting

1805. July 8. Present the 4. Secretaries. privateers are now blockading Charleston, the capes of Chesapeake & Dealaware and capturing vessels without the smallest pretext, merely because they are rich. it is determd by unanimous consent (except mr Gallatin who dissents) that the vessels being some without commns. some with insfft. commns. & some doing what their commns. do not warrrt. all of which is within the definition of piracy, & the act of Congr. authorising us to keep 6. frigates in commn. in time of peace with $\frac{2}{3}$ their ordinary compliment, & having authorised the buildg. equippg. &c 2. brigs without confining them to specific objects, we are authorised from this force to take what may be necessary to suppress these pyracies, & accdly. that the Adams¹ and the brig Hornet building at Baltimore, shall be got ready & sent out, & confined entirely to the suppression of these piracies on our Atlantic coast, chusing prudent officers and giving cautious instructions. there are funds sufficient & regularly appropriated to the fitting out, but for manning the proper funds are already exhausted. consequently we must borrow from other funds, and state the matter to Congress. our general opinion is that as soundings on our coast cease at the beginning of the gulph stream, we ought to endeavor to assume all the waters within the gulph stream as our waters as far as to exclude privateers from hovering within them.

MS (DLC: TJ Papers, 131:22677); entirely in TJ's hand; follows, on same sheet, Notes on a Cabinet Meeting of 8 Oct. 1804.

For the French privateer BLOCKADING CHARLESTON, see TJ to Robert Smith, 19 June.

CAPE OF CHESAPEAKE & DEALAWARE: for the actions of the Spanish privateer *La Maria*, see TJ to Smith, 11 June.

ACT OF CONGR.: the 1801 naval Peace Establishment Act provided for six frigates to be kept in commission in times of peace. An 1804 act authorized the construction of two 16-gun warships (U.S. Statutes at Large, 2:110-1, 291-2).

CAUTIOUS INSTRUCTIONS: in late July, Robert Smith drafted orders for Alexander Murray and Isaac Chauncey, commanding the *Adams* and the *Hornet*, respectively, that "Within the territorial jurisdiction of the United States, i, e, within a marine league of the margin of

our Coast, you will protect all vessels whatever, as well foreign as American, against the aggressions of the armed vessels public or private of any nation whatever." The commanders were also to "repress all infractions of law" that "any such armed vessels" might attempt, and should take or send into a U.S. port for examination and trial any privateer that lacked a valid commission (NDBW, 6:199; Smith to TJ, 30 Aug.).

GULPH STREAM: Smith's orders to the naval officers stated that their "cruising range or station" would run from the coast "to the distance of the Gulf Stream." In May 1806, Madison asked James Monroe and William Pinkney to propose to Great Britain that the area out to the Gulf Stream should serve as a coastal zone in which armed ships would be prohibited from "roving or hovering" (Madison, *Papers*, *Sec. of State Ser.*, 11:582-3).

¹TJ here canceled "shall be."

From Stephen White

SIR

Gallegoes Canall Mills Richmond July—8—1805

Heering you are a Recting a Mill a Small Distance up this river I have made so bold as to offer my self to your Service as a Miller noing there is but few Millers in the northern states that can excell me in that branch of business and for your settesfection if you think proper you will pleas to enquire in to my Carractor at Baltimore which is not far from you Enquire at Taylor & Finley: Irvin & Cobean Scott & McClelon Howard Street and By the in Spectors likewise when at the in Spectors ask for—S: White wich is my one name this was in the year—1800, 1801—1802 1803 that the inspector Can Recolect he Can Say with a Cleer Conchence that I never had anny flower Redused to midling in my life but has had it frequently Raised from fine to superfine when I made it fine. At that time I branded my one name on the barels Last June—a year Mr. Gallego was at baltimore and before I nu anny thing about him or him about me I was Recommended to him and was over persweded to Come to his mills at Richmond where I now am and at anny time you think proper to Right if a tale Direct your lettar to the Care of Messrs. Gallego Richard & Co likely Mr Gallego would not be pleased but it Can be done with out his noing anny thing a bout it Mr Gallego & Company I have no obgecians a gainst a tall but the plase is Rather to wild for me a Bout this sitty I meen the genrality of people I should Be much fonder to be in the Contry a little further if you Right me let me no what wages you give and whin you would wsh me to set in and I shall Contrive how to get a way I am not Married but singel has no famley but my self

May it Pleas your ExCelency I Shall wait on you with Pleasure yours &C.

STEPHEN WHITE
Richmond Virginia

RC (DLC); at head of text: “to the Honourable Mr. Jefferson—President”; endorsed by TJ as received 11 July and so recorded in SJL.

White’s references, notable BALTIMORE merchants and grocers, included Irvine & Cobean, Finlay & Taylor, and Scott & McClellan at 25, 45, and 47 HOWARD STREET, respectively. After the American Revolution, Howard Street had a reputation for selling the best flour available, in part because inspectors there set the standards for the quantity and quality of flour that could be traded (Warner & Hanna, *New Baltimore Directory, and Annual Reg-*

ister; for 1800 and 1801 [Baltimore, 1801], 38, 83; Cornelius William Stafford, *Baltimore Directory, for 1803* [Baltimore, 1803], 48, 115; James Robinson, *Baltimore Directory for 1804* [Baltimore, 1804], 30; J. Thomas Scharf, *History of Baltimore City and County, from the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men* [Philadelphia, 1881], 767; G. Terry Sharrer, “Flour Milling in the Growth of Baltimore,” *Maryland Historical Magazine*, 71 [1976], 332).

Joseph GALLEGO, a native of Spain, was a prominent Richmond merchant who founded the Gallego flour mills. John

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Richard and Michael B. Poitiaux joined him in the firm of Gallego, Richard, & Company (Herbert A. Johnson, Charles T. Cullen, Charles F. Hobson, and others, eds., *The Papers of John Marshall*, 12 vols. [Chapel Hill, 1974-2006], 9:40; Thomas S. Berry, "The Rise of Flour Milling in Richmond," *VMHB*, 78 [1970], 387-408).

From William Dunbar

DEAR SIR

Natchez 9th. July 1805

I have received the honor of your letter of the 25th. May, as also your note covering a letter for the Chevalr. Dannemour, which last has been forwarded. Having been of late engaged with my private concerns, my attention has been suspended from objects of a different nature, otherwise I should have, ere now, completed my sketch of the course of the Washita river, but I shall certainly get it prepared & forwarded long before the meeting of the Legislature. The alteration you have been pleased to make in the ensuing expedition, so that one river only shall be explored at time will greatly facilitate the business; it will be infinitely more convenient and safe, and perhaps both time and expence will be saved. Mr. George Davis was mentioned by me last year to the Secretary at war; tho' not fully qualified, I thought him the best we could then procure, & that with good instructions he might do; but since that time Mr. Briggs and myself have both discovered that he is a very unfit person; he is of so unhappy a disposition, that we cannot think, any harmony would exist in the party where he might be placed even in a subaltern character, much less were he in authority. He has the merit of possessing some self acquired mathematical knowledge, but no practical knowledge as an astronomer. He has been a Deputy of Mr. Briggs to the present time, and none but a person of his very humane disposition would have retained him after reiterated acts of insubordination and presumption; he is of a most jealous temper and seems continually upon the watch to take offence, which he scruples not to express in rude terms. I thought it necessary to say this much in explanation, that you might know why we do not approve of Davis: I should have been very happy if he had been in all respects a proper person, for we are extremely at a loss where to find one. I have written to New Orleans on the subject, particularly to M. Lafon the author of the map of Louisiana and the View of New Orleans; tho' I do not think that he himself is much of an Astronomer, yet he may help to discover what we want.—I have written to Colo. Freeman on the subject of boats; if none belonging to the public are of proper construction, some of those which always

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perish by being out of use, may be bartered away for such as will suit us. I have also written to Govr. Claiborne to know what will be the determination of the Marquis de Casa-Calvo. Should he decline giving a passport, must we not expect that our party will be stopped near the bayou pierre settlement, no great distance above Nakitosh?—I have never had the pleasure of seeing Colo. Freeman, but have been in correspondence with him and I conceive that an officer of his rank and respectability will be of considerable advantage to the progress of the expedition, particularly if he knows the use of the sextant and possesses some talents of research.

I have considered the methods you propose for ascertaining the Longitude in the event of derangement to the time-keepers. There can be no doubt as to the principle, but it seems to me that the execution will involve some new difficulties. There must be at least two good observers and a nice instrument different from the Sextant: it is at all times a curious operation to form a meridian sufficiently correct for the purpose of being applied to the ascertainment of the Longitude, and in order to measure the moon's distance from any meridian, we must have an instrument similar to the Astronomical Circles of Troughton, to give us the true azimuth of that planet, for the Sextant would be there of no use, & this azimuth must be referred by Calculation to the pole to give us what we are in pursuit of. To find the moon's distance from a known star when She is on the meridian of Greenwich is easily ascertained, but in order to watch & observe this distance, we must previously calculate what ought to be the moon's apparent distance from the Star as seen from our Latitude & longitude (a very intricate calculation) & supposes the longitude nearly known, which may not be the Case: moreover the moon being on the meridian of Greenwich, will be to us always under the horizon with south declination & at all times too low for good observation: if we take the moon's distance from a Star when the former is upon our own meridian, a good observer must be at the transit instrument to give notice of the moons passage, and as we have no knowledge of the apparent time to enable us to calculate the true and apparent altitudes of the moon & Star or Sun, those must both be taken by two additional observers: upon the whole the best remedy seems to be to have two good observers (three would be better) with excellent instruments & to chuse that time of the day when the Sun or Star is at a sufficient distance from the meridian, so that taking the altitude of either will give the apparent time at the moment of taking the distance between the moon and either of those: in this case it will be found always preferable to use the Sun, because it is extremely difficult for inexperienced

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observers (& for others) to take double altitudes of a star with the artificial horizon on several accounts.

One other method of a very simple nature I will mention in a subsequent letter, fearing that the mail may depart too speedily to allow time at present—With the highest respect and attachment, I have the honor to be Your most Obedt. Servant
WILLIAM DUNBAR

RC (DLC); endorsed by TJ as received 16 Aug. and so recorded in SJL. Dft (Lb in Ms-Ar: William Dunbar Papers); dated 6 July.

Dunbar has not been found, nor is one recorded in SJL.

Edward TROUGHTON was a leading maker of scientific instruments in London (DNB).

TJ wrote to Charles François d'Anmours on 29 Mch. A covering NOTE by TJ to

From Donald Fraser

SIR

New York July 9th. 1805

The affability of your Character, induces me to think, that you will not be offended at the liberty which I have taken in addressing you, at present.

Being about publishing a work, of considerable merit, by subscription; I flatter my self that you will indulge me with the *Weight of your name*, at the head of my Subscription list:—A *name*, far *Superior* to that of *Emperor, King or Duke!* I have not the folly nor temerity, to attempt to flatter one of your discernment; But, yet, as a *Republican*, I must consider a *person*, calld by the voice of *Millions* of enlightened men to preside of their *dearest rights*, (from a conviction of his *Superior talents & Patriotism*) a greater man than any King, from Nimrod's¹ time 'till this.—

Governor Lewis of this State, The Honorable DeWitt Clinton and the Honorable Doctor Samuel L. Mitchell, have countenanced the Undertaking with their names; the last mentioned Gentleman I have the honor of being personally acquainted with for a number of years—He knows my *Sentiments*.—I owe him much Gratitude for Literary & pecuniary aid.—

Permit me to add, that I taught three years in Manchester, & upwards of twenty in this City; Published Several tracts for the benefit of the Rising generation, some of which, Sold to advantage; but by, *misplaced confidence* have lost all the fruits of my arduous industry—And, have *now*, at the age of *fifty two*, to struggle through this *scrambling* world a new!

I have the honor to be, with with great respect, Sir, your most obedient and humble Servant
D. FRASER

9 JULY 1805

P.S. I have taken the liberty of enclosing *two pages*, from a *Miscellaneous* work which, I published *twelve* Years since (for the use of Schools) Wherein I expressed my, *then*, Sentiments of, the most eminent Statesmen in America—My Sentiments are Still the Same; with regard to the *first & last* mentioned: Namely, *Washington & Jefferson*.—In page 37, of the enclosed leaves, I was rather *mistaken*, in my *Idea* of the *French revolution!*—

The foregoing extracts will Show, that I have *long* entertained a high idea of the *talents & Patriotism* of the *now President*, of these *United & happy* States—I am *now*, addressing, a *Philosopher*, a *Republican & a Gentleman*; have therefore, Spoken my *mind freely*; perhaps, with too *little* regard to the eminent Character of the personage whom, I address.

D.F.—

RC (DLC); addressed: “Thomas Jefferson President of the United States”; franked; postmarked 10 July; endorsed by TJ as received 12 July and so recorded in SJL. Enclosure not found.

Donald Fraser (ca. 1753-1820), a relative of Richmond attorney Alexander McRae, taught school in Fluvanna County, Virginia, and New York for more than 20 years. He operated a circulating library from 178 William Street in New York and became an author and compiler of a wide range of historic and didactic writings. Among his publications were *The Young Gentleman and Lady’s Assistant*, *The Columbian Monitor*, and *A Collection of Select Biography, or the Bulwark of Truth*. During the War of 1812, Fraser

sought an appointment as a military chaplain. He struggled financially for the remainder of his life (New York *American Citizen*, 3 Dec. 1803; *New-York Commercial Advertiser*, 28 Jan. 1805; New York *Columbian*, 2 Nov. 1816; *New-York Daily Advertiser*, 18 Dec. 1820; Sowerby, No. 1396; RS, 4:305, 545-6; 6:525-6; 7:656-7; 10:188n).

PUBLISHING A WORK: *The History of Man; or, A View of the Virtues and Vices of Human Nature in Both Sexes*, published in New York in 1806, included DeWitt Clinton, Morgan Lewis, Samuel L. Mitchill, and TJ among the prominent subscribers’ names listed in the back matter.

¹MS: “Nimrd’s.”

From Albert Gallatin

SIR

Treasury Department 9th July 1805

I have the honor to enclose for your decision a letter from Mr Hall district judge at New Orleans in which he requests that a certain public building should be appropriated to the use of the courts.

Applications have been several times made by the custom house officers for some similar appropriation, the building heretofore used for that purpose being an old wooden one and very unsafe for the keeping of the books, accounts & bonds.

It had also been stated that a part of the public or military hospital might be spared for the marine or sick seamen hospital. A ward of the

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Charity hospital has heretofore been obtained from the trustees for that purpose.

It might be desirable & I respectfully beg leave to suggest the propriety of obtaining a general return & description of all the public buildings there in order that such as are wanted may be applied to such uses as you will be pleased to direct & that such as are inconvenient or useless, such indeed as the old custom house, may be disposed of.

I have the honor to be respectfully Sir Your most obedt. Sert.

ALBERT GALLATIN

RC (DLC); at foot of text: “The President of the United States”; endorsed by TJ as received 9 July and “public buildgs in N.O.” and so recorded in SJL. Enclosure: Dominick A. Hall to Gallatin, 3 June from New Orleans; Hall informs Gallatin that since his arrival, he has lacked a proper court space and has had to hire rooms; there is a building owned by the

United States, formerly used by the Spanish as a schoolhouse, that would make an ideal court space; it is currently occupied by Colonel Constant Freeman, but Hall points out that Freeman could be housed in the military quarters; he hopes Gallatin will intercede and direct that the building be used as the district court (same).

From George Jefferson

DEAR SIR

Richmond 9th. July 1805

Your favor of the 5th inclosing a note to G. & J. negociable at the Bank of Virginia for 1000\$, I received yesterday; but not in time to be offered so as to be decided on to day.

Friday the 12th. is again discount day, when I will inform you of its fate.—I am however so *entirely certain* it will be discounted, that, if it will at all facilitate your arrangements, you are at liberty to draw, as if it were now done.—

Bohn & Hubner’s notes fall due the 31st. of Augt, & 30th. of Septr, & of October—should you therefore require further discounts, you had as well date notes the first of August—one at 60, & the other at 90 days.

I am Dear Sir Yr. Very humble servt.

GEO. JEFFERSON

RC (MHi); at foot of text: “Thos. Jefferson esqr.”; endorsed by TJ as received 12 July and so recorded in SJL.

of 1000\$ was this day discounted” (RC in same; at foot of text: “Thomas Jefferson esq.”; endorsed by TJ as received 20 July and so recorded in SJL).

I WILL INFORM YOU: in a brief letter of 12 July, Jefferson wrote that TJ’s “note

From Robert Smith

SIR,

Nav dep 9 July 1805

I request your signature to the enclosed warrants—they are wanted for midshipmen & other officers for the Ship Adams & the Brig Hornet.

I have the honor to be with great respect, sir, yr mo ob servt.

RT SMITH

RC (DLC); in a clerk's hand, signed by Smith; at foot of text: "President of the United States"; endorsed by TJ as received 9 July and "midshipmen's warrants" and so recorded in SJL. FC (Lb in DNA: RG 45, LSP).

MIDSHIPMEN & OTHER OFFICERS: over the course of the next several days, Smith sent out warrants to 28 midshipmen, three surgeon's mates, and one purser (FCs in Lb in DNA: RG 45, LSO).

From Caesar Rodney Wilson

Dover, Delaware,

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

July 9th 1805.

I hope you will excuse my presumption, in writing to you, altho an utter stranger; I have no excuse to plead except my necessities. I am Sir, the son of a Capt Wilson, who served during the late glorious Revolution in a Regiment Commanded by Col: Henry Neal. After his return he married the Sister of Cæsar Rodney Esq the Governor of Delaware State. After the Death of Mr. Rodney, he, as well as the rest of the Family, was reduced in Circumstances, but by the help of a small Office, under the Government of this State, made out to support his family and to School his Children. It was intended that I should study the Law, but my Father dying, before I had Completed my education, I was obliged to relinquish that idea, and was obliged to have recourse to my pen for support. I was first a Clerk in an office at Lancaster and with a small Salary. I relinquished that for a Clerkship under the Commissioners appointed by the State of Pennsylvania for settling Connecticut Claims in the County of Luzerne; in that County I married, and the Commission being at an end in January last I returned home, where I still am, out of employment, and dependent on a relation for a Support. The purport of this letter Sir is to solicit an appointment under some of the Governments in your Jurisdiction, in either of the Louisiannas or the Mississippi Territory where my uncle Thomas Rodney now is; or Elsewhere, as you may think proper. Your

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Compliance will Confer an Obligation on, and ever be gratefully Acknowledged by,

Your Excellency's Respectful and Hume. Servt.

CÆSAR RODNEY WILSON

RC (DNA: RG 59, LAR); at foot of text: "His Excellency, T. Jefferson Esqr."; endorsed by TJ as received 13 July and so recorded in SJL with notation "office."

Caesar Rodney Wilson (ca. 1782-1820) was the son of Simon Wilmer Wilson and Sarah Wilson, a half-sister of Caesar Rodney. Another uncle, Thomas Rodney, had written to Madison in 1801 in an unsuccessful attempt to secure a clerkship for his nephew. Wilson eventually joined the

navy as a midshipman in 1814 and held the rank of sailing master at the time of his death (George Herbert Ryden, ed., *Letters to and from Caesar Rodney, 1756-1784* [Philadelphia, 1933], 446-7; Madison, *Papers, Sec. of State Ser.*, 2:247-8; Edward W. Callahan, *List of Officers of the Navy of the United States and of the Marine Corps, from 1775 to 1900* [New York, 1901], 594; Philadelphia *Franklin Gazette*, 28 Oct. 1820).

To William C. C. Claiborne

DEAR SIR

Washington July 10. 05.

It is represented to be expedient that some permanent partition & appropriation should be made of the public buildings at New Orleans for the accomodation of the public functionaries. the Government house should doubtless be ascribed to the Executive. there are then the Legislature of the territory, the courts of justice, the custom house, the military corps, the military & marine hospitals separately as being under separate directions, & perhaps others who do not occur to me. will you be so good as to send me a statement of the buildings which devolved on the US. with your opinion of the best distribution to be made of them. on reciept of which a permanent appropriation of them shall be made here.

The members of the government leave this place on the 15th. inst. and will not return to it till the last of September. Accept my friendly salutations & assurances of respect & esteem

TH: JEFFERSON

PoC (DLC); at foot of text: "Governor Claiborne."

To Albert Gallatin

TH:J. TO MR GALLATIN.

[10 July 1805]

The inclosed letter merits serious attention. notwithstanding the favorable opinion I have hitherto entertained of Symonds, when facts are specified & the persons named who can prove them, I do not see

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that we can avoid instituting some enquiry. tho' the writer keeps his own name back, it is impossible but that the letter would shew there who was the writer, and he might thus be obliged to take on himself the active duties of the enquiry. when you shall have considered the letter we will confer about it. Affectionate salutns

RC (NHi: Gallatin Papers); undated. PoC (DLC). Recorded in SJL at 10 July 1805 with notation "v. Simonds." Enclosure: anonymous undated letter to TJ, not found, received 10 July from Charleston with notation "about the Collector" (Appendix iv).

For previous anonymous letters criticizing James Simons (SYMONDS), the collector at Charleston, see Vol. 35:713-14; Vol. 36:91-3, 266-8; Vol. 39:364-6; Vol. 44:573-4.

To Reuben Lewis

DEAR SIR

Washington July 10. 05

I have not yet recieved the dispatches from Capt Lewis which we know to have arrived at St. Louis. it is probable they are coming on by a special messenger who travels slow. in the mean time I inclose you a newspaper account which is probably authentic, as it is understood to come from Capt Clarke. in the Aurora you will see another account containing some additional particulars. as you will recieve that paper as soon as this letter I say nothing of it. I shall be in Albe-marle this day sennight so presume the dispatches will find me there. Accept my salutations & best wishes.

TH: JEFFERSON

PoC (CSmH); at foot of text: "Mr. Reuben Lewis"; endorsed by TJ. Enclosure: Frederick, Maryland, *Republican Advocate*, 5 July, reporting that "an express with dispatches from the winter quarters" of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark has arrived in St. Louis and that letters in that same express have reached Clark's correspondents in Lexington; the account also describes various aspects of the expedition, including details of its winter

location among the Mandan nation and the "curiosities of different kinds" being collected.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT: the *Aurora* of 9 July included some information about geography, indigenous people, and animals and reported that despite having endured "a severe winter," only one man had died on the expedition and the group was "in good health."

To Dolley Payne Todd Madison

July 10, 1805

Thomas Jefferson presents his respectful thanks to Mrs. Madison for the trouble she has been so kind as to take on his behalf. Nothing more is wanting, unless (having forgotten little Virginia) a sash or

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something of that kind could be picked up anywhere for her. The amount, and the person from whom the earrings and pin were bought, Thomas Jefferson would also ask of Mrs. Madison. He presents his affectionate salutations.

Tr (printed in Lucia Beverly Cutts, *Memoirs and Letters of Dolly Madison: Wife of James Madison, President of the United States* [Boston, 1887], 28). Not recorded in SJL.

RESPECTFUL THANKS: see TJ to Dolley Payne Todd Madison, 6 July.

EARRINGS AND PIN: TJ paid Burnett & Rigden, a Georgetown jewelry and watch-making shop, \$35 on 12 July for “ear-rings &c.” (*Washington Federalist*, 26 Oct. 1803; MB, 2:1148, 1159).

To James Oldham

SIR

Washington July 10. 05.

On enquiry I found that the small balluster for your Corinthian modillion, if made in composition, must be in 2. halves to be glued together, which as they warp a little in drying, would make a bad job.

Mr. Lenox being at work in the house, undertook to enquire what they would cost turned. the best turner in the place said he ought to have 6. cents a piece, but would do them for 5. I therefore paid mr Lenox 5. D 75 c for the 115. he will have them turned, and as I shall leave this on Monday, he will deliver them to a servant of mine whom I always employ to find conveyances to Richmond by water or by the stage, & will have them sent to you in the present case. they will go into a box 8 I. square & 2½ I. deep. Accept my best wishes

TH: JEFFERSON

PoC (MHi); at foot of text: “Mr. James Oldham”; endorsed by TJ.

From Jean Baptiste Petry

MONSIEUR

Baltimore le 10. Juillet 1805.

J'ai l'honneur d'adresser à votre Excellence

1o. Un Exemplaire des œuvres de M. Destutt-Tracy, membre du senat

Conservateur, qui vous ont été déjà annoncés par M. Delafayette

2o. Un traité sur la fièvre Jaune par M. Valentin, medecin

3o. Et Un compte rendu par M. de Marbois, ministre du Trésor public pour l'an 11.

Je regrette beaucoup, Monsieur, que les divers événements qui ont retardé mon arrivée dans ce Continent et qui m'on privé de mes effets m'ayent empêché de vous fair parvenir ces livres plutôt.

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Je suis avec un très profond respect Monsieur de Votre Excellence
Le très humble et très obéissant serviteur PETRY.

E D I T O R S ' T R A N S L A T I O N

SIR,

Baltimore, 10 July 1805

I have the honor of sending your excellency:

1st. A copy of the works Monsieur de Lafayette told you about, by Monsieur Destutt de Tracy, a member of the Conservative Senate.

2d. A treatise on yellow fever by Monsieur Valentin, a physician.

3d. A report by Monsieur de Marbois, treasury minister in Year 11.

I regret very much, Sir, that I could not send you these books earlier because of the various events that delayed my arrival on this continent and deprived me of my belongings.

With very deep respect, I am the very humble and obedient servant of your excellency. PETRY.

RC (ViW: Tucker-Coleman Collection); at foot of text: "His Excellency thomas Jefferson"; endorsed by TJ as a letter of 1 July received 3 Oct. and so recorded in SJL.

RETARDÉ MON ARRIVÉE: Petry, the former French vice consul at Charleston, returned to the United States as secretary of the French legation. Petry sailed from Nantes in September 1804, but bad weather forced a long delay in the Azores (Madison, *Papers, Sec. of State Ser.*, 8:381-3; Vol. 13:535; Vol. 14:65; Vol. 16:52; Vol. 42:549).

PAR M. VALENTIN: Louis Valentin, *Traité de la fièvre jaune d'Amérique* (Vol. 42:201-2).

To Ellen Wayles Randolph

MY DEAREST ELLEN

Washington July 10. 05.

To answer the question in your letter of the 4th. I must observe that neither the *number* of the fine arts, nor the particular arts entitled to that appellation have been fixed by general consent. many reckon but five—Painting, sculpture, architecture, music & poetry. to these some have added Oratory, including, within that, Rhetoric which is the art of style & composition. others again, add Gardening as a 7th. fine art. not horticulture, but the art of embellishing grounds by fancy. I think Ld. Kaims has justly proved this to be entitled to the appellation of a fine art. it is nearly allied to landscape painting, & accordingly we generally find the landscape painter the best designer of a garden. no perfect *definition* of what is a fine art has ever yet been given. some say that as those are *mechanical* arts, which consist in manual operation unconnected with the understanding, those are *fine* arts which to manual operation join the exercise of the imagination or genius. this would comprehend sculpture, painting, architecture &

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gardening; but neither music, poetry, nor oratory. others say that the sciences are objects of the understanding, the fine arts of the senses. this would add gardening, but neither poetry nor oratory. a definition which should include Poetry & Oratory & no more would be very difficult to form.

I have delivered your love to Mrs Smith. I will bring mine to you all on Thursday, Friday or Saturday next. the thermometer was yesterday at $97^{\circ}\frac{1}{2}$ here, and at 96° the two preceding days. I think it will be at 96° to-day. should it be as hot when I am ready to depart, I shall certainly delay my departure. God bless you all.

TH: JEFFERSON

PoC (MHi); at foot of text: "E. W. Randolph"; endorsed by TJ.

To Philippe Reibelt

SIR

Washington July 10. 05

Being within two or three days of my departure for Monticello, a press of business has prevented my sooner acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 7th. the sum appropriated by Congress for furnishing the President's house is small in comparison of the size & wants of the house, which is very large and as yet has been very scantily accommodated. the sum now appropriated will barely furnish indispensable necessities and necessities must take precedence of ornaments. I think therefore that another appropriation must be waited for before such objects as are proposed in your letter can be aimed at. should other business happen to lead yourself & Mr Du Catet to this place after my return, I shall be happy to see you at the President's house. Accept my salutations & assurances of respect.

TH: JEFFERSON

PoC (DLC); at foot of text: "M. Reibelt"; endorsed by TJ.

From Philippe Reibelt

MONSIEUR!

Baltimore le 10 Juill. 1805.

Je desire, comme j'ai déjà eû l'occasion de Vous dire, ardemment, de quitter ma carrière intermiste de Marchand des Livres, et de me retirer en Simple Cultivateur sur une petite terre. Je donne, d'après ce, que j'ai vû, la preference aux environs de Charlottésville; mais je n'y connais personne, de la quelle je pourrois attendre la bienveillance Cosmopolitique, de diriger un étranger—excepté Vous—Je prends

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(continued...)

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