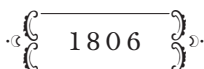


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THE PAPERS OF THOMAS JEFFERSON



From William C. C. Claiborne

DEAR SIR—

New Orleans, November 20. 1805.

I have the honor to inclose you a duplicate copy of my letter of the 13. Instant.

The Citizens recommended as Councillors are, for the most part, men of Talents and Integrity; indeed, with the exception of Mr. Jones, there is not one whose appointment would give me regret; but having witnessed the unfriendly disposition of this Gentleman to the American Government, I should be sorry to see him honored with a confidence which, on his part, is so little merited.

The proceedings of the House of representatives of this Territory were very satisfactory to me,—much harmony prevailed, and a degree of patriotism evidenced, which will (I hope) have a good effect, both at home and abroad.

I learn, through the medium of the news papers, that Russia, Sweden, and Austria are hostile to Bounaparte, and will probably unite with England in the war against France and Spain;—an event of this kind would doubtless prove favorable to an amicable settlement of the limits of Louisiana; but if it should so happen that Justice cannot be obtained by negotiation, there can be but one opinion as to the issue of an attempt on the part of the United States, to command by Force, an acknowledgement of their Rights.

Accept, Dear Sir, the best wishes of Your faithful Friend—

WILLIAM C. C. CLAIBORNE

RC (DLC); in a clerk's hand, signed by Claiborne; endorsed by TJ as received 23 Dec. and so recorded in SJL. Enclosure: Dupl, not found, of Claiborne to TJ, 13 Nov.

To Henry Dearborn

TH:J. TO GENL. DEARBORNE.

Nov. 20. 05.

The orders for the Commanding officer at Natchitoches as agreed to yesterday were that he should first apply to the Spanish Commandant at Nacogdoches and ask an assurance from him that there shall be no further inroads nor acts of violence on their parts committed on this side of the Sabine river. if he refuses, or fails to observe his engagement, then the Commanding officer at Natchitoches is to be on the alert for the protection of our citizens pursuing their lawful concerns Westward of the Missisipi.

That he send patrols through the country Eastward of the Sabine river which he is to consider as within our actual possession, from time to time, & especially when armed men, not under the authority of the US. have entered, or are about to enter the same, or when it is necessary to protect the persons or property of our citizens: but that his patrols are not to enter the country Westward of that river but when it is necessary to repel invasion, to pursue & arrest the invaders, or to protect the persons or property of our citizens or those under our protection. that aggressors are to be *arrested* if possible and the spilling of blood to be avoided but when his orders cannot be otherwise executed. that prisoners arrested, if Spanish subjects, may be delivered to the Commandant of Nacogdoches if he gives satisfactory assurance of punishment, or otherwise that they be delivered to the civil authority for punishment, or if that be found incompetent, that he deal with them as shall be advised by the Governor of Orleans. that in patrolling the country about Bayou Pierre (which settlement is within our possessions, altho' not yet assumed) he is not to disturb or enter that settlement unless an aggression renders it necessary to take possession of it, & to send the Spanish guard to Nacogdoches. and if the Commandt. of Nacogdoches shall engage as proposed in the first instance to prevent aggressions then he is not to consider any peaceable intercourse between Nacogdoches & Bayou Pierre as an aggression. but if that engagement is denied in the first instance, he is to prevent all intercourse between those places.

RC (PHi: Daniel Parker Papers); endorsed by Dearborn as received 19 Nov. PoC (DLC). Notation in SJL: "Span. affrs."

On this day, Dearborn wrote to the commandant at Natchitoches with TJ's ORDERS. Dearborn's instructions were simi-

lar in wording and content to the letter above, but with a postscript: "I will thank you to state, as precisely as practicable, the distance by land and by water, between the settlement at Bayou Pierre and Nachitoches. Every reasonable measure, short of actual force, ought to be pursued on your part, to induce the Commanding

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Officer at Nacogdoches, to cause restitution to be made of the property taken from the Citizens or Traders of the U.S. by the

Soldiers or subjects of Spain” (Tr in DLC, endorsed by TJ; FC in Lb in DNA: RG 107, LSMA).

From Nicoll Fosdick

SIR

New London Novr. 20th. 1805

Noah Lester Esqe. Counsellor at Law in this State, from the active part he has taken on the Republican Side, has Recieved Such parsuasion from the intolarance of our Federal Rulers in this State, that he is Compelled to Stand an Applicant for Some Employ under the general Government;

He has already been Recomendend as a person that would make a Respectable Judge, or District Attorney, in the Territory of Michigan, or compatatant to any office of equal trust Elsewhere, and as we are informed Some of the Gentlemen appointed to the above offices have not accepted of their appointment, we take the Liberty to repeat the Recomendation, and have to observe that his Character Stands fair, and that he must as well as many others leve this State—With high Esteem we are Sir your Respectfull Huml Servts.

NICOLL FOSDICK

RC (DNA: RG 59, LAR); at foot of text: “Thomas Jefferson Esqe”; endorsed by TJ as received 1 Dec. and “Lester Noah to be judge or atty of Michigan” and so recorded in SJL.

ALREADY BEEN RECOMENDED: for letters recommending Noah Lester, see Vol. 45:461-2, 489-90.

From William Henry Harrison

DEAR SIR

Vincennes 20th. Novr. 1805

Mr. Hay having declined the appointment of a member of the Legislative Council for this Territory two other persons have been nominated agreeably to the Ordinance and I presume their names have been sent on to you. Viz Mr. Shadrack Bond & Mr. John Perry—the former is certainly the most proper character; altho’ he has had little advantage from education he posses a very strong natural capacity & his character for honesty has never been impeached He is withall a staunch republican & much more popular than any other man in his County—I beleive it was the Wish of the Members of the House of Representatives as I know it is of his present Constituents that he should be in the Council—Mr. Perry is a French man—I know nothing

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against his character excepting that he has been pretty deeply engaged in purchasing the land claims in the Illinois Country—Both these gentlemen were unfortunately opposed to our going into the second grade of Government—Mr. Bonds opposition was very extraordinary & unexpected—the greatest efforts were however made by the land Jobbers to gain him over to their interest—& their gentry (some of whom own upwards of 100,000 acres of land) frightened at the Idea of having a land tax did not hesitate to spread any falsehood that was likely to defeat the Measure.

I Have the Honor to be with the most perfect Respect & Esteem Dr
Sir your Huml Servt.

WILLM. H. HARRISON

RC (DLC); at foot of text: “The President of the United States”; endorsed by TJ as received 13 Dec. and so recorded in SJJL.

HAVE BEEN SENT: prior correspondence on a replacement councillor has not been located. TJ forwarded Shadrach BOND’s name to the Senate for approval on 23 Dec. (JEP, 2:11).

UNFORTUNATELY OPPOSED: Bond and Jean François Perrey supported appeals to Congress for the separation of Randolph and St. Clair Counties in the Illinois country from the more heavily populated eastern Indiana counties, which they feared would dominate a territorial legislature. They instead proposed connecting the two western counties to upper Louisiana (*Terr. Papers*, 7:140-5; Vol. 39:230n).

To Benjamin Smith Barton

DEAR SIR

Washington Nov. 21. 05

I recieved from you a letter dated June 12. in which you were so kind as to give me the information I had asked respecting mr Dunbar’s specimens of plants, & you mentioned your preparing your Indian geography for the press, but there is no mention in that or any other letter recieved from you of any paper on the subject of manure, nor have I the slightest recollection of such an one. I have searched too the place where I file away such papers, and do not there find such an one. I am inclined therefore to believe I have never recieved such an one: or, if I did, that I must have returned it; for tho’ my memory tells me nothing about it, yet my habits are so particular in disposing of papers, that they give me some confidence even where my memory yields no assistance. however should I hereafter be able to find the paper it shall be carefully returned to you.

Mr. Peale informs me that the Missouri magpie is precisely the same with the European. I had not expected this, tho’ I never had observed the magpie of Europe, because the descriptions speak of the blue & red hues of the wings & tail, which I had not observed on the Missouri magpie. the Marmotte may very possibly be the *Arctomys*

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Citallus. but, from what I observed in Europe both of animals & vegetables, natives, I am apt in all cases to expect a sufficient permanent difference to authorize the considering them as specifically different. I shall be happy however to learn the ultimate result of your examination of all the subjects which I sent to mr Peale. Accept my friendly salutations & assurances of great esteem & respect

TH: JEFFERSON

RC (PHi); addressed: "Doctr. Benjamin S. Barton Philadelphia"; franked and postmarked; endorsed by Barton as received 23 Nov. PoC (DLC).

INFORMATION I HAD ASKED: see TJ to Barton, 2 May.

PAPER ON THE SUBJECT OF MANURE: see Barton to TJ, 17 Nov.

PEALE INFORMS ME: Charles Willson Peale to TJ, 22 Oct.

To Philippe Reibelt

Nov. 21. 05.

Th: Jefferson presents his salutations to mr Reibelt. he has received & tried the bottle of Champagne, & finding it not better than what he had before, & of which he has a sufficient stock, he declines taking it with many thanks for the offer. if mr Reibelt will do him the favor of paying for the bottle, Th:J. will be thankful to him, and remember it in the first remittance to be made to him.

PoC (MHi); endorsed by TJ.

BOTTLE OF CHAMPAGNE: see Reibelt to TJ, 19 Nov.

From Alexander Wolcott

SIR

Middletown Cont. 21 Novr 1805

It is understood here that there is, at present, a vacancy in the judiciary department of the Territory of Michigan. I take the liberty of recommending to you, Mr Jesse Atwater, who now fills the office of Post Master at New Haven, as a man whom I believe to be, in all respects, well qualified to fill the vacant office with honor to himself, and benefit to the Territory.

I have the honor to be with perfect respect. Sir your Obedt Servt—

ALEX WOLCOTT

RC (DNA: RG 59, LAR); at foot of text: "His Excellency Thomas Jefferson"; endorsed by TJ as received 26 Nov. and "Atwater Jesse to be judge Michigan" and so recorded in SJL.

From Justus Erich Bollmann

SIR,

Newyork November 22d. 1805

I have not heard from Your Excellency and this Silence causes me very serious Pain and Embarrassment. Your friendly Intentions on my Subject have agreably relieved me during the most gloomy Period of my Existence and excited Sentiments of Gratitude which even Time will not obliterate. The Apprehension therefore of having perhaps incurred Your Displeasure is distressing.

I know myself guilty of having acted with levity on the first Instance; but a speedy Decision appeared requisite and the Situation very desirable. The Explanations received from Mr. Davy and the Manner in which they were given changed the Face of the Object; and, had I withstood these Impressions, Mr. Davy being left the sole Judge of the Securities to be given on this Occasion I was confident that he would have rejected any I could have offered—a Mortification to which it must have been extremely irksome to be exposed.

Allow me under these Circumstances to flatter myself that Your Excellency will consider me rather as unfortunate than deficient in Conduct and to hope that You will be pleased to express to me the Continuation of Your good Will.

I beg Your Excellency to receive the Assurances of my Attachment and Respect

ERICH BOLLMANN

RC (DLC); at foot of text: “The President of the United States”; endorsed by TJ as received 25 Nov. and so recorded in SJL.

HAVE NOT HEARD: since accepting the factorship at Natchitoches, Bollmann had written at least two letters to TJ, of 21 Oct. and 6 Nov., but neither has been

found (Bollmann to TJ, 16 Oct.; Appendix III).

Bollmann had apparently received unsatisfactory information on the financial commitments related to his employment from William DAVY, the principal agent for conducting trade with Native Americans (Dearborn to TJ, 25 Mch.; TJ to Dearborn, 29 Mch.).

From William C. C. Claiborne

DEAR SIR

New Orleans, Novr. 22. 1805.

I have the honor to inclose you a duplicate of my letter of the 23rd. Ultimo.

The barracks in this City, with some repairs, which might be readily made by the Soldiers, would afford comfortable quarters for Officers and Privates.

I have always thought that the Officer commanding the Troops, should reside in the Barracks; The *apartments* are commodious, and

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Colonel Freeman might (if he pleased) convert some of *them* into very convenient chambers for his own accommodation.

I am, Dear 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: "The President of the United States"; endorsed by TJ as received 23 Dec. and so recorded in SJL. Enclosure: Dupl of Claiborne to TJ, 23 Oct.

Constant FREEMAN refused to remove his residence from a building that the Spanish territorial government had used for a public schoolhouse until Dearborn ruled that civil buildings in New Orleans

were under the governor's authority. In a separate, undated list of U.S.-owned buildings, Claiborne indicated that Freeman would be moving "in a few days" and that the building, "well calculated for a public School," would accommodate the district court until the president "shall direct some other disposition for it" (*Terr. Papers*, 9:487-8; Rowland, *Claiborne Letter Books*, 3:209-11; Gallatin to TJ, 30 July [first letter]).

From Henry Dearborn

SIR

War Department Novemr. 22d. 1805

I have the honor of proposing, for your approbation, William Partridge and Alden Partridge, as Cadets in the Regiment of Artillerists.

With sentiments of esteem & respect I am Sir, Your Obedt Servt

H DEARBORN

PrC (PHi: Daniel Parker Papers); in a clerk's hand, signed by Dearborn; at foot of text: "President of the United States." FC (Lb in DNA: RG 107, LSP).

Dec. William rose to the rank of captain, but died a British captive during the War of 1812; Alden also rose to the rank of captain and served until 1818 (Heitman, *Dictionary*, 1:773).

William and Alden Partridge of Vermont were appointed as CADETS on 14

To Albert Gallatin

DEAR SIR

Nov. 22. 05.

The bearer hereof is mr Thomas Walker Maury who is come on to recieve the appointment of Reciever of public monies at Fort St. Stephens. supposing it would be agreeable to you to obtain some personal knolege of a person who is to act under you, I have recommended to him to wait on you to ask any information or instructions you may be pleased to give him. altho' he seems to have made up his mind for this office in preference to that West of the Misipi, yet it must have been on an imperfect information of the circumstances of

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both. he will therefore be thankful to you for any information you may be so good as to give him. the purity of his character & a cultivated understanding will render him valuable. indeed for this reason I am rather glad his own choice carries him to Tombigbee. Your's affectionately
TH: JEFFERSON

RC (NHi); addressed: "The Secretary of the Treasury." Not recorded in SJJL.

Petition of Laurence Hayes, with Jefferson's Order

To the honorable the Judges of the circuit Court of the District of Columbia.

The petition of Lawrence Hays confined in the Jail of Washington County, respectfully represents That your petitioner was fined by the last court of this County for an assault committed on a free yellow woman, named Sally Carpenter—and that execution has been issued and served upon him for the fine and Costs in this Case, which, being wholly unable to pay, he has been committed to Jail—He humbly states to your honors that he has a helpless family consisting of a Wife and three children, who depend entirely upon his labour for support—and they are now suffering for the want of almost every necessary to sustain life. Your petitioner's neighbours are all ready to attest the infamous character of the said Sally Carpenter, and the industry & attention of your petitioner. He therefore prays your honors to consider the situation of himself and his family, and the misery which would result to them, if during the inclement season which is approaching, he should remain in Jail—and if to you it shall not seem improper, he humbly begs that you will make such representation to the President of the United States in his behalf, as will incline him mercifully to extend his pardon to your petitioner, and remit his fine and fees in this case, so that he shall be enabled to use his best exertions as he has heretofore done, to support his family. And your petitioner as in duty bound &c.
LAURENCE HAYES—

I John W. Pratt Deputy Marshal of the District of Columbia certify, that I believe the above Petitioner Lawrence Hays, is unable to pay his fine and fees—and that he is an honest industrious man. Given under my hand this 22d. Nov. 1805
JOHN W PRATT

We the undersigned Judges of the Circuit Court of the district of Columbia, being satisfied that the within named petitioner Lawrence

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Hays is unable to pay the within mentioned fine and costs, and that his family who are dependent upon his labour for support, are suffering, respectfully recommend to the President of the United States to comply with the prayer of the petition.

W KILTY
W. CRANCH
Novr. 22d. 1805.

[*Order by TJ:*]

Let a pardon issue

TH: JEFFERSON
Nov. 23. 05.

RC (DNA: RG 59, GPR); petition in a clerk's hand, signed by Hayes; attestation in a clerk's hand, signed by Pratt; recommendation of the court in William Cranch's hand, signed by William Kilty and Cranch; endorsed by TJ and recorded in SJL as

received from Hayes on 22 Nov. with notation "petition. S."

TJ issued a pardon to remit the fine and costs on 23 Nov. (FC in Lb in DNA: RG 59, GPR).

To James Madison

TH:J. TO MR MADISON

Nov. 22. 05.

The inclosed barbarous Italian would require more consideration to be perfectly understood than I have time to bestow on it. I believe mr Wagner reads Italian. if he does, a good translation should be made; and it sets up such serious pretensions as that I think we should give it to Eaton & desire him to make a statement of what passed between him & the Ex bashaw & such a one as we may communicate to the latter with our determination on it.

RC (DNA: RG 59, MLR); written on verso of address sheet to TJ; addressed: "The Secretary of State." Not recorded in SJL. Enclosure: Ahmad Qaramanli to TJ, 5 Aug.

From John Page

SIR

Richmond November 28th. [i.e. 22] 1805

I have the honor to inclose to you a copy of a letter from the coroner of the county of Norfolk, by which it appears that John Bullen, a Soldier of the Garrison of Norfolk has been murdered by Woodley Eastridge a Drummer of the said Garrison, who has fled from justice, and said to be at Fort McHenry, within the jurisdiction of the United States. I make to you Sir, this Communication that such steps may be taken to bring the Culprit to justice as may by you be deemed proper.

I have the honor to be &c.

JOHN PAGE.

22 NOVEMBER 1805

FC (Vi: Executive Letterbook); misdated (see TJ to Page, 9 Dec.); recorded in SJJ as a letter of 22 Nov. received 27 Nov. Enclosure not found.

To Thomas Paine

DEAR SIR

Washington Nov. 22. 05

The mass of business which comes to me daily from the principal offices of government, with that which rests exclusively on myself, leaves me so small a portion of the day for answering letters that I am obliged to economise that so as to be able to answer, merely those which indispensably require it. to letters which require nothing to be done I give no answer. those which require something, are left to read their answer in what is done. yours of Sep. 30. required something to be done, but which could not be till the meeting of Congress & the Virginia legislature. my intention was on the meeting of the latter to write to a friend there to consult & to do in your matter¹ what he should find best: and to mention the thing to some members of Congress, tho' I hoped you would personally address some of them to attend to it, because any intermeddling on my part may be misconstrued into endeavors to influence the proceedings of Congress which I ought to avoid. in the Virginia legislature, consisting of upwards of 200 persons, I do not now know half a dozen, & perhaps not more than one or two to whom I could take on myself to suggest any matter. since I was in their councils, the business is got entirely into other & younger hands. propositions which made at the time and to the persons witnesses of the services would have been voted by acclamation, stand much less hopefully before those who receive their knowledge of transactions only from the cold page of history. you will perceive from this that the reason I did not acknowledge the receipt of yours of Sep. 30. was that I could then have written but a mere acknowledgement, which being ceremony only & not substance, I am of necessity in the habit of omitting. the desire that you should not impute it to any want of attention to your interests which cannot exist with me, has led me to give you these details in answer to your note of Nov. 14. Accept my friendly salutations and [assurances] of constant esteem & respect.

TH: JEFFERSON

PoC (DLC); one word faint; at foot of text: "Thomas Paine."

¹Preceding two words interlined in place of "it."

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