

Dear Sir

Paris Dec. 8. 1788.

my last to you was of the 21st of Nov. addressed to milan
poste restante according to the desire expressed through our
Paradise. I have lately received yours of the 19. of Nov. and
sincerely felicitate you on your recovery. I wish you may
have suffered this to be sufficiently established before you set
out on your journey. The present letter will probably reach
you amidst the classical enjoyments of Rome. I feel myself
kindle at the reflection, to make that journey: but circumstances
will oblige me to postpone it at least. we are here under a most
extraordinary degree of cold. The thermometer has been 10°. of
Reaumur below freezing. This is 8°. of Fahrenheit above zero,
and was the degree of cold here in the year 1740. The long conti-
nuance of this severity, and the snow now on the ground give
physical prognostications of a hard winter. you will be in a
privileged climate & will have had an enviable escape from
this. The Notables are not yet separated, nor is their rea-
sonable vote against the people yet consolidated. but it will
be. The parliament have taken up the subject, and passed a
very laudable vote in opposition. They have made it the
occasion of giving sketches of what should be a bill of rights.
perhaps this opposition of authority may give the court an option
between the two. Stocks are rising slowly but steadily. The loan of

Nov. Short.

1784. is at 13. lofs; the caisse d'escompte 4075. The Count de Puy-
enne has retired and M. de Puy-segur succeeded to his place.
M^{me} de Chambonois (sister of M. de Langeac) is dead of the small-
pox. Pio is likely to receive a good appointment in his own coun-
try which will take him from us. corn likely to be extremely scarce
in France, Spain, & England. This country has offered a premium
of 40^{sous} the quintal on flour of the U. S. and 30^{sous} the quintal on our
~~corn~~ ^{sheat} to be brought here between Feb. & June. it ~~proves~~ ^{turns out} that
the king of England's original disease was a lunacy; that all
they published about dropsical & hydrocephalic symptoms were
lies, that the real disease of lunacy has come on with as little
bodily indisposition as usually accompanies the first develop-
ment of that disorder. There is reason to suspect his is of the
dangerous species of madness, I mean that which disposes the sub-
ject to do mischief, and will render it necessary for him to
be confined as the furious maniacs are. he is to be brought to
Kew. it is supposed they are now engaged in settling the regency,
but uncertain whether it will consist of one, or a plurality of
persons.

American news comes down to the last of October.
Pennsylvania & Connecticut had elected their new Senators.
Genl. Washington writes me that industry & economy begin to
take place of that idleness & extravagance which had succeeded
the close of the war. the Patowmee canal in great forwardness.
Mar 2. J. Ma.

J. Ma. writes me word that Mr Jay & Gen. Knox are talked of in the middle states for Vice presidents, but he queries whether both will not prefer their present births. It seems agreed that some amendments will be made to the new constitution. all are willing to add a bill of rights; but they fear the power of internal taxation will be abridged. The friends of the new government will oppose the method of amendment by a federal convention which would subject the whole instrument to change, and they will support the other method ~~proposed~~ which admits Congress by a vote of $\frac{2}{3}$ to submit specific changes to the assemblies, $\frac{3}{4}$ of whom must concur to establish them.

The inclosed letter is from Pellegrino, one of the Italian labourers established in our neighborhood. I fancy it contains one for his father. I have supposed it would not be unpleasant to you to have the delivery of it, as it may give you good opportunity of conferring with one of that class as much as you please. I obey at the same time my own wishes to oblige the writer. Marzei is at this time ill, but not in danger. I am impatient to receive further letters from you which may assure me of the solidity of your recovery, being with great anxiety for your health & happiness, Dear Sir

Your affectionate friend & serv^t

J. J. Adams

Jefferson - Dec. 8. 88

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[Handwritten signature or initials at the bottom of the left page.]

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