

10.20. Jul. 19. m/101  
Sir

on wells Aug. 28. 08

I have duly received your favor of July 15<sup>th</sup> & with it the Almanac of Orleans which you were so kind as to send me, and for which I present you my thanks, we have on this side of our country no Almanac so scientific. The equation of time, places of the sun & planets would make it quite a *Connaissance des Temps*. In describing the bounds of the territory of Orleans, I should ~~say~~ state them to be 'under the charter of Lewis the XIV. and the act of Congress the Rio del Norte on the West, the 33<sup>d</sup> degree of Lat on the North, and the Perdido on the East, altho' pending the negociations with Spain, jurisdiction is exercised only from the Sabine to the Iberville & lakes Maurepas & Pont-chartrain' I feel much indebted for the offer of your valuable observations on the country you inhabit & should I, on my retirement, engage in any thing analogous to them, I will certainly avail myself of the kind permission you give me to address enquiries to you. I pray you to accept my salutations & the assurances of my esteem & respect.

Th. Jefferson

M. B. Lafon

Lafon B. Aug. 28. 08.

Received July 28. 08

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I have duly received your favor of July 12<sup>th</sup> with its  
the pleasure of Orleans which you have so kindly sent me  
and for which I present you my thanks, much as I wish  
that our country and commerce so soon might be the equal  
of time, places of the sun & planets would not want outside  
a correspondence of form. In describing the bounds of the  
territory of interest, I should ~~repeat~~ repeat them to be  
under the charter of Lewis the XIV. and the end of Capitan  
the Rio del Norte on the West, the 30<sup>th</sup> degree of Lat on the  
North, and the Florida on the East, all the country the  
negotiations with Spain, jurisdiction is exercised only  
from the Sabine to the Missouri & also through the Port  
-chartrain. I feel much indebted for the offer of your  
valuable observations on the country government, & other  
I, on my retirement, engage in any thing analogous  
to them, I will certainly send myself of the best for  
-mission you give me to address enquiries to you  
I pray you to accept my acknowledgements & the assurance  
of my esteem & respect.

*[Handwritten signature]*

W. B. Lafon