

Robeson W^m Aug. 24. ^{Aug 24} rec^d Aug. 28. 1785
arriv^d same day.

Dunkirk Aug: 21st 1785

Your Excellency will I trust pardon the
liberty I take, in addressing a Gentleman to whom I
shall not the Honor to be known; yet the subject will
in some measure plead my Excuse

I am an American by birth
and have been Honor'd with a very Gentle Commission
by the state of South Carolina during the course of the
war, and have been very much on this side of
the Atlantic, which has given ^{me} frequent Opportunities
of Observing the Real Necessity, of having some
Person, in the several Ports, which are frequented
by our ships, under the Character of Consul, or Agent,
to whom we might apply for Explanation or Advice
whenever we unavoidably may happen in any Dispute
or dispute, I have had very Recent Proofs in Holland
with my unfortunate Countrymen who have neither
the Language, nor maritime knowledge, or Custom of
the Port, who incessantly are involved, and who have
suffered for the little Crews, that in fact they were

led into, as well supposing the prevalence of Officers
Under every Species of Aggravation and Rapine
that the time flies about for something to be done
Paying great differences to your Excellency's
Wisdom and Judgment, We think it would be much
more Agreeable to have a Countryman of our Ours
who may be Qualified, to fill such Appointments
with Credit to His Country and Himself

We have at this port a Mr
John Monteton a Native of Virginia who has
taken a very active part through the whole Contest
he is in a Variety of Instances, on Record; of
frequently Magnanimous, and has acquired a handsome
Property, and what is still higher a Reputation
with it — this Gentleman has Resided here since
the war and speaks the French well, is
Conversant in French and Italian, and daily is
transacting there — I beg leave to recommend
this Gentleman to your Excellency's consideration
appearing your Excellency it would be pleasing to see
our Countryman who have the Pleasure of knowing him
I have the Honor to be with the greatest Respect
your Excellency — — — Most Ob. Serv. than
if your Excellency should be pleased to write
me a line — Hotel Chapeau Rouge Rue de
St. Robert