

Dear Sir

Washington Mar. 8. 09.

It is with much concern I inform you that the Senate has negatived your appointment. we thought it best to keep back the nomination to the close of the session, that the mission might remain secret as long as possible, which you know was our purpose from the beginning. it was then sent in with an explanation of it's object & motives. we took for granted, if any hesitation should arise, that the Senate would take time, & that our friends in that body would make enquiries of us, & give us the opportunity of explaining & removing objections. but to our great surprize, & with an unexampled precipitancy, they rejected it at once. this rejection of the last of my official communications, to them, could not be unfelt, nor were the causes of it spoken out by them. under this uncertainty, Mr Madison, on his entering into office, proposed another person (John Q. Adams) he also was negatived, & they adjourned sine die. our subsequent information was that, on your nomination, your long absence from this country, & their idea that you do not intend to return to it had very sensible weight: but that all other motives were superceded by an unwillingness to extend our diplomatic connections, & a desire even to recall the foreign ministers we already have. all were sensible of the great virtues, the high character, the powerful influence, & valuable friendship of the emperor. but riveted to the system of unentanglement with Europe, they declined the proposition. on this subject you will receive the official explanations from Mr Smith, the Secretary of state. I pray you to place me, *rectus in curia* in this business, with the emperor, and to assure him that I carry into my retirement the highest veneration for his virtues and fondly cherish the belief that his dispositions & power are destined by heaven to better, in some degree at least, the condition of oppressed man.

Wm. Short.

I have nothing new to inform you as to your private friends  
or acquaintances. our embargo has worked hard. it has in fact fede-  
-ralised three of the N. England states. Connecticut you know was so be-  
-fore. we have substituted for it a non-intercourse with France and  
England, <sup>& their dependancies</sup> and a trade to all other places. it is probable the belligerents  
will take our vessels under their edicts, in which case we shall proba-  
-bly declare war against them.

I write this in the midst of packing & preparing for my departure,  
& visits of leave & interruptions of every kind. I must therefore con-  
-clude with my affectionate adieux, to you, & assurances of my con-  
-stant attachment & respect.

Th: Jefferson

Jefferson. March 8

I have nothing new to inform you as to your private friends  
 or acquaintances. our embargo has been found it has not been  
 raised since of the N. England states. <sup>and</sup> which you know was so  
 fore. we have substituted for it a non-intercourse with France and  
 England. <sup>& their dependencies</sup> & trade to all other places. it is probable the belligerents  
 will take <sup>careful</sup> under their edicts, in which case we shall prob-  
 ably declare war against them.

I write this in the midst of packing & preparing for my depart-  
 ure. I will leave & interruptions of every kind. I must therefore con-  
 clude with my affectionate adieu, to you & assurances of my con-  
 stant attachment & respect.

Th: Jefferson