

Chas. Jefferson Ingham,
President of the United States,

Boston, Sept. 16, 1807.

Sir,

I take the liberty to inclose for your perusal a proposal, to which I refer you. A correct and impartial history of the French revolution was very much wanted. The works of this kind which have appeared, were written in the heat of factions, and under the bias of party spirit; nor have any given accounts further down, than the trial and almost total extinction of the royal family. The different and subsequent relations of campaigns, or political changes, have formed separate, detached, and imperfect works. This will be the first that will comprise a whole history of that astonishing revolution, and the continuance, which I shall give down to a general peace, will render it a complete document. As an American production, I am induced to hope that it will receive a generous encouragement, to which alone it must be indebted for its appearance, since the immense cost necessary to make it public will require a large capital.

I beg the support of yourself, and the literary gentlemen in your vicinity, and will thank you to return the subscription, directed to me, No. 6, West-row, Boston, as soon as convenient. Should I obtain a liberal support within three months, the work

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I beg the support of yourself, and the literary gentlemen in your vicinity, and will thank you to return the subscription, directed to me, No. 6, West-row, Boston, as soon as convenient. Should I obtain a liberal support within three months, the work will be put to press. It will be requisite, therefore, to have the subscriptions returned within that time; to enable me to pursue or relinquish at present this arduous undertaking. The work is ready for the press, and will suffer no other delay, than that necessary for a correct and diligent execution of the same.

I have the honour to be, with much respect,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

Samuel Mackay,

Late professor of the French language in Williams' College.

Handwritten text at the top right corner, possibly a name or address, partially obscured by a tear in the paper.

Mackay Sam'l Boston. Sep. 16. 07.

rec'd. Dec. 18.

Faint, mirrored text visible through the paper, likely bleed-through from the reverse side. The text is difficult to decipher but appears to contain numbers and possibly names.