

Dear Sir

Stamford 15th May 1796 8

your favor, ^{on} the the subject of y^e Stone-Mason was
rec^d While at New-London — Immediately on my arri-
val at home I waited on him in hopes of being able
to persuade him to undertake your business but
found it impracticable & should have written to you
immediately to that effect had not Mr Coalter
Informed me he had done so — I then had
recourse to a Mr Jewell whom I could have re-
commended but found him engaged also —

I have just returned from the court
of Bath where I saw a Mr Cavendish from Green-
brier who tells me that some people who were
making Salt-petre in a large cave in that county
have found ^a the bone of the toe of some Animal
eight or ten inches long & half as thick as his Wrist
that the end of it which went into the claws
was as thick and almost as long as his finger
he has promised to send it to me as soon as I
receive it I shall forward it to you by the first
safe opportunity — The Frost has been so

Stuart Archib. May 15. 96.

recd. May 20

severe here as to Injure some of our forward
ye & to kill the foliage in many places

I am with respect and esteem
yr very Aser vant

Archibald Stuart

Thos Jefferson Esqr