

Monticello Nov. 10. 1822

Sir I have to acknowledge your favor of the 4th instant which gives me the first information I had ever received that the laurels which Col^o Campbell so honorably won in the Battle of Kings Mountain had ever been brought into question by any one. To him has ever been ascribed so much of the success of that brilliant action as the valor and conduct of an able Commander might justly claim. This lessens nothing the merits of his companions in arms, Officers and Soldiers, who all, and every one, acted well their parts in their respective stations. I have no papers on this subject in my possession, all such received at that day having belonged to the records of the Council: but I remember well the deep and grateful impression made on the mind of every one by that memorable victory. It was the joyful annunciation of that turn of the tide of success which terminated the revolutionary war, with the seal of our independence. The slighting expression complained of as hazarded by the venerable Shelby might seem

Seem inexcusable in a younger man: but he was then
old and I can assure you, dear Sir, from mortifying expe-
rience that the lapses of memory of an old man, are
innocent subjects of compassion more than of blame. The
descendants of Col: Campbell may rest their heads qui-
etly on the pillow of his renown. History has consecrated,
and will forever preserve it in the faithful Annals
of a grateful Country. With the expressions of the
high sense I entertain of his character, accept the
assurance to yourself of my great esteem and respect.

To
John Campbell Esq^r

Richmond

Th: Jefferson

P.S. I received at the same time with your letter,
one from Mr William C. Preston on the same subject.
Writing is so slow and painful to me that I must pray
you to make for me my acknowledgements to him,
and my request that he will consider this as an
answer to his as well as your favor.

