

Belville Friday August 26th 1825

Dear Monroe

On leaving Governor's Island, this day week, I expected to have seen you the same day in the city, your note to Miss Harriet however deprived me of that anticipation - I left New York, then of necessity, without expressing to you the feelings of gratitude with which I should so often recur to those agreeable hours, spent at your hospitable Quarters - If the canons of my Philosophy did not interdict an indulgence in idle wishes, I should yield to the practice at this moment - I should wish again to be in New York, and find myself at No. 52 once more in social proximity to No. 55, and to Governor's Island - John Reed and I left New York together but parted at Trenton - So a few days were sufficient to dispart, and disperse the gay Crowd which but a week before was so compact at the Springs - I fell in with much of its wreck on the journey, but alas! Quantum mutatus ab illo! How different from the elegant forms we saw in the Drawing Rooms of Congress Hall, or the U. States Hotel! I could scarcely recognize them as the same, they seemed to have suffered in person and habit by a tumultuous and disorderly retreat - Mr. and Mrs. May, I was told left Baltimore for New York, at six, the morning I arrived - It would have afforded me great pleasure to have paid my respects to them -

Presuming that your Virginia taste has undergone no change, in relation to Virginia bacon, since we sat near a cold Ham at breakfast I beg your acceptance of half a dozen which I have put on board the Schooner "Fly"

34
Governor's Island
New York

15
1825
PICKENS

Dear Mr. James Monroe

Capt. Knapp - to your address, as also a barrel of sweet
potatoes for the children - I hope soon to advise
you of the shipment of a cargo of sugar to the
same Consignee - I have been at home too short
a time to ascertain the produce, or contents
of my Keenel -

To Mrs. Brown, and to the Ladies of No. 55 be
pleased to express the sentiments of profound respect
in the name dear Sir of

Your Friend
and Obedt. Servt

E. B. May Jr

P.S. The "Fly" scab on Thursday the 2^d of Sept.
and will be found at the Coffee house Shop - As
I am somewhat more experienced as a Farmer,
than some of my friends - I would advise you
to spread the Potatoes on a dry floor - It is yet
very early for them - and I am sorry they are
not of their full growth -