

Mr. C. Hammons's Reply bond to me in time for an Ex^o to reach you before your return, nor get payment from him, it will be necessary for you to bring the bond in with you, But hereafter I am at all points may be proper to enquire whether an Ex^o can go to that Country after the New Government takes place or at what period by the act of Congress which will be there before you leave the Country this will happen. If the Ex^o cannot get there in time I suppose a new suit must be brought & the sooner that is done the better, except your Uncle Geo. will engage upon his honour to pay the money in any given short time. Another circumstance is necessary to attend to, after the separation is complete and the New Government takes place, you cannot bring slaves from thence to this state, they would by our laws be intitled to freedom.

We have just rec^d Acct^t that the mouth of the Eastern branch is the place fixed on for the Federal seat & that Alexandria is taken onto the 10 mile distance — This circumstance which is greatly pleasing to the people of Alex^{ia} will soon have a considerable influence on the value of property here.

You leave us uneasy about your state of health as from your letter that you are attacked by a putting of blood without saying whether it had left you — a great many here has been attacked in the same manner, you ought to have been blooded immediately. Should any thing of the kind continue, you should be cautious of taking cold, use a good deal of moderate exercise, live very temperate (a milk diet is very proper) and avoid spirits. I am fearful too of the Indians, since the busting they gave our people it is probable they will infect the Country you are in, therefore caution will be necessary when you return home should advise your getting with a large Company. I am

D^r Dear

Yrs^l affectionately

Seven Powell

Mr John Pickett's balance is £42. 8. 1.

Middlebury Jan^y 9th 1791.

Dear Darr.

Under the same cover with this you will find a copy of a letter which I wrote in November last by John Pickett under cover to Mr Greenup. I send this lest the other might miscarry as it contains some matters necessary to be attended to. Since then I have rec^d two letters from you, one by Mr Johnston, the other by Mr Dullitt. As the Mr Dullitts have made such great preparations for defence I am fearful you will find them disposed to be very troublesome & if they should be so disposed, they certainly have it much in their power to be so, the distance between us being so great. It will therefore be proper to act with a great deal of cautious prudence, observing the old adage, that when our hand is in the lions mouth, we must get it out as easy as we can. at any rate I hope you will be able to get bonds for the Cherokees before you break with them, if there should be a necessity to break at all.

I have found an obligation which I took from Doctor Griffith to convey three proportion of Land, this will be good for 1/4 of what they have actually secured & therefore in your settlement with them, let them hold back so much land & in the settlement of money let them in like manner hold back 1/4 parts of the necessary expenses in securing, you will yourself recollect that it lies on them to show titles obtained for Griffith for as much as you settle for, a particular ac^t of which you will bring in with you. Mr Dullitt has given up his land to his son in that Country who will I suppose settle the matter himself with them. About 6 days ago I settled my Acct^t with Mr Dullitt & we have vacated our agreement with respect to lands in that Country, the whole therefore is in his hands and he is to settle with the Mr Dullitts. I think you took Powers with you from all the others that I engaged for, & if the Mr Dullitts are obstinate it will be necessary for you, before

Witnesses to tender conveyances, let these Witnesses take a mean^e, or rather
sign one which keep yourself of all the lands and the peoples names for
whom you are ready to convey or are willing he should stop out of our
Contract. But endeavour to get all you can from them first, for it is better
to dispute for part than the whole & I have hopes that your having possession
of the title for the land near Mans lick & no conveyance yet made by me
for the land on Simpsons Creek, the greater part of which I understand they
have sold will be a means of bringing them to do justice. Before this
I suspect you have their proposals & objections which will enable you to judge
what is best to do, when you are at a loss take advice & observe that in all
kind of business and more particularly in this coolness & caution is
indispensably necessary. I will give you another adage, monflis are
caught with a spoonful of Honey than a gallon of Vinegar. Upon the whole
it may be better to sacrifice something than contend with them at such
a distance.

Our Assembly at their last session repealed the Law imposing a tax on
Deeds & for fear it might not have got to that Country I enclose you a paper in
which it is published, this is a favourable circumstance if the States should
convey the land, and indeed this seems to be the most lucky time that
could be fixed on for the purpose— for by the last Act^o from Phil^a it is more
than probable that Kentucky is by this time a separate State and taken into
the Union, and I expect their first Assembly will lay a tax on conveyances,
what deeds therefore you can get recorded before that event happens will be
clear of a tax.

Such Act^o as I have been able to gather respecting the Spanish Trade
are unfavourable to your plan of a Trip down the Mississippi, I would
therefore advise your not attempting it except it should be to get some-
thing tolerably clear that cannot be got any other way. Circumstances
too has made it necessary for me to dissolve our partnership, on which
Act^o it may be proper for you to return sooner than you could do if you
went round. Until then I mean to carry on the business as usual.

I have had repeated Duns for this money due by your Uncle Mr. Lubbock
Harrison and I have been obliged to promise a part of it in March, you know
our circumstances will not admit of advances without injury to our
own Creditors, who on Act^o of by far the worst Collections ever made, have

now some pressing demands upon us. Surely that gentleman never
will keep property in his own hands & leave me to pay his debts.

Tobacco is so low ab^t 12/6 that the Planters have carried but little to
Market. The Farmers have kept back their wheat for the last years price,
till it has fallen from 5/9 to 5/4 & will be lower. Our Collections in that kind
not exceed 1000 bushels, what was down in the fall I sold for by the rest
5/10/2. My indisposition I suppose shortened this Collection, I was not
able to venture from home & seldom out of the House till the middle
of this month, I have just returned from below & think better for the
Tresp, a great number of people have died here, among your Acquaintances
Capt. Carr, Old John Tyler, Jonathan Davis, Miss. Dove, Miss. Landon Carter
& many others.

Mr. Stets claim for the difference in value of the location removed is
very extraordinary, he knows very well that he took the locations as they
were, indeed the most of them were made by himself & you will find by
our first contract, that he bound himself to locate the Warrants upon
vacant Land of the first Quality then vacant.

I am persuaded the man who set up a claim to the lot in Town must
be wrong, I was very particular in enquiring into the title of the
man from whom I purchased & the Trustees have conveyed it to me,
it will be necessary to enquire into his title & if he yet has possession
to bring a suit against him except you are satisfied as to his right.

I have not been able to satisfy myself yet with respect to my right of
locating my Warrants on the N^o side of the Ohio— I must therefore leave
it with Mr. Messey to do the best he can— when it is done I will
convey his part & do what is further necessary for me to do.

It certainly will be the policy of the New Government to tax Land
& therefore some should be got from the States that will rent out, & some
person appointed there to get tenants due to the payment of Taxes. Inkin
Phillips who takes this out is perhaps as good a person as could be had,
he promises to do it & I am to do other business for him here, if therefore
you should get any land to take care of & made no other engagement, I
think it will be best to leave a power with him. If you cannot get