

Dear Sir,

Metairie June 9th 1797

In my last I inform'd you of the behaviour and conduct of your man John, since then I deem'd it proper to send him to Goal and he is now in Keelsburg where I think to keep him until his hand gets well and then discharge of him in such a manner as may prevent his doing any injury here. I found there was no chance of getting his hand well whilst he was running at large nor do I believe he would a live, he would not even wait on the Doctor to have his hand dress'd, I was told of his purchasing whiskey in the streets and running about as usual of nights, nor was this the worst of the business, he was frequently throwing out threats, that if they did not let him alone he would either take himself or some of them & gave hints that they had better take care of their houses, and in these circumstances I thought it best to put him out of harms way & was oblig'd to it in some measure from the loss Mr. Brooke sustained by fire which he writes me was at least to the amount of \$1000. besides the want of the articles consumed which he says he never expects to replace, this it seems was done by his man Ned who was sent to Goal to take his trial, but what has been done with him since I have not heard.

Our family remains much as when you left us except your Cousin Nancy who has been struck with something like the Palsy and I have my fears that you will not find her living on your return, the Doctor has been bleeding her this two or three days what effect this may have I can't tell, but I doubt its being effectual, she is not so bad however but she sometimes moves about but has little or no use of her right hand & the whole side is much affected. I am myself better than when you left us, having in a great measure recover'd the use of my

will not mind them. The Assen Tly has been very destructive in many
places, particularly below at this & Medelberg. I don't hear of any com-
plaint of the kind among you, and I believe your plantation affairs
goes on pretty well, that of the store perhaps not so well as you
comes very slow in - Markets are low & dull & insurance being
from 30 to 40 %th Net worth standing this. Flour commands 12
Dollars. Deven's vessel has just returned safe from her third
voyage after being here once, she got 12 dollars for flour.

I sent Jones down to Betty in December who writes herself and
will inform you as to herself and children & Sally writes to
Betty, both will be found under this cover. It gave me some
pleasure to hear you were boasting of the great bargain you
got of me? My compliments to all friends and my

Affection for both of you

Deven Poole

Except we may meet with a storm here that will overwhelm us. The French party here speak of an Army of 20000 men that France is to send over to take possession of Louisiana & Florida for the purpose they say of invading Canada by the way of Mississippi the Lakes - That an Army will be sent over by France if they can spare the men & can get them there. There is some reason to believe is true, tho' not for the purpose of sending to Canada, but for that of taking possession of our Western Country & Kentucky & fix the Sable upon us here. We are told of a French Genl. Officer being in Georgia tampering with the people there and if these Acc^{ts} are true it is more than probable that you have some of them now in Kentucky on the same business.

Considering the situation of our affairs it appears to me best to get clear of the Kentucky property if it can be done on tolerable terms, and indeed if the land which I got from Capt. White on the Northwest side can be disposed of without too great a sacrifice it had better be done, for really to me our affairs seem to wear a very gloomy aspect, and yet a great deal of it may originate in my fears for America for when I consider how near she has been once or twice different times and how notwithstanding escaped I am ready to conclude that we are the peculiar care of Providence and shall once more escape the danger that hangs over us. If however your sales in Kentucky could put me in cash or a tolerable quantity of it in 6 or 12 months I wd. immediately take a trip to the upper part of New York and make a purchase there. The people to the Northwest have as yet virtue enough for a free Government, but those whom we have and who generally woggle themselves into office have not and I am really afraid it cannot exist, and what is worse that they will bring some dreadful calamity upon us. Notwithstanding these gloomy appearances there is one chance left for altho' the tools of faction in every section the people seem generally to think right and I am told that even the Janus thro' people are changing their ground, but whether we are in time for this opinion to produce any good is uncertain.

Leesburg Dec 13th

I kept the letter open until I got to this place under an expectation that something new might turn up and indeed a different opinion of things. This however is not the case. I observe that our Democrats are very busy & anxious about something. I think however the people

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places, particularly below at this & Meddellburg. I don't hear of any com-
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I sent Jones down to Shelby on December 10th who writes himself and
will inform you as to himself and children & Sally writes to
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got of me? My compliments to all friends and my

Affectionate love of yours

Deven Poole



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June 19. 1797

Major Rur Powell

recommended to the

now in
Care of Capt. Harrison's Regt. Kentucky
Near Bonds Town.



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