

Dear Sir,

Augusta February 12th 1798.

I have just returned to this place & found your letter in the Post Office together with Mr. Talbot's sent on from Columbia. I shall write on to Major M. Intosh the Belair to little purpose for in his mind I met with a Gen. White from Tennessee who informs me that M. Intosh was then in that Country & Ludlow too did not to return in any short time. Your letter gave me much satisfaction being the first information I had rec^d from home & for which I had felt great anxiety. I did not as I expected when I wrote you from Columbia proceed on directly to this ~~place~~^{State}, my Army horse had been sick for some time the day I left there the black horse refused his food it seemed to be the opinion of some that they were taken with the Yellow Water Fever, I thought it best to proceed on towards Charleston that if I lost them I might return by water, at Orangeburg I met with Mr. Shurt who procured Mr. Kent's horse & persuaded me to send them to his plantation where they got quite well in a fortnight. I left his home on Thursday & got to Savannah before the Assembly of Georgia met there I found the most difficult piece of business that I ever undertook to do. The Assembly was composed of two parties with no small degree of Contention against each other Gen. Jackson at the head of one consisting of about 2/3rd of the members not more than two men of talents besides himself. Talent & honesty were found in the other party. To promise any kind of success in the business which I had to negotiate it was absolutely necessary to pay particular attention to Jackson's party & in doing this I was necessarily opposing myself to the other & to avoid it I was obliged candidly to inform them of my motives. I was fortunate enough to soften down Gen. Ludlow's

into Science altho he was much opposed to such Claims and was equally
fortunate in securing the only two men of talents & influence among them
thus leaving them without a head I was able to get such a resolution through as
I think will ultimately insure the payment of the money. I was kept at home till
four weeks on this business the opposition had courage enough to keep it
off in order to try me out in which they were near succeeding. There written
to Capt. Lane here the matter stands, his brother the Lt. I find very much
reputed in this state & which greatly assists his claim.

From Jonesville I went up to the Shoals of Ogechee on a visit to Capt. Buel
who has meted a blooming, saw & quit mill there, I staid with him eleven days
the most agreeable ones that I have spent since I left home, he has a very agreeable
family & were pleased with our stay. I think to leave this about Wednesday
for Charleston where I shan't have above 20 or 30 days to stay as I mean to sit my
face towards home the first of March ~~leaving~~ an slowly reach there by the last
of that month. This is a most delightful winter climate, the people here say
that this has been one of their hardest winters, so me it has appeared very much
like our fall months, the peas in the gardens here are now four or five inches high.
The cold has pained this winter than I have done for the six last but I cannot
flatter myself with getting clear of them altogether, they still hang upon me at
times tho in a moderate degree. I am persuaded that if I had got here when I
set out five years ago that I might have succeeded but now I am fearful they
have established themselves.

There in this state & Carolina experienced more attention politeness and
hospitality than I ever did before in any part of the world, indeed much has
been said about being more pleasing to me & better suited my state of health.
I believe it has been much owing to the vote I gave in Virginia as an Elector for
Thomas Mifflin was known as the person who singly voted for John Adams, if a
doubt arose in the minds of any I was sure to be asked the question; such is the
prejudice of man that when the election took place it was unsafe for a person to say
any thing in favor of John Adams and now I am persuaded he would not vote at all
in these two states. A gentleman in this town one of the most violent opposers had

a child christened the other day John Adams. This unsteady temper and
disposition of the people ^{will} prove destructive as it always has done to free
governments, the slaves will by plausible pretences conceal themselves of it.
I think they have been more succeeding in ^{our} Country several times. At present
it appears to me that the sentiments of the people here stand well and if
France shall persevere in her present system that no part of America is
in which more reasonable in opposing her than these.

M. Stuart has given me a note from Charleston for the money ~~he~~ ^{is} owed to me
& Capt. Harrison which will be got. Alfred's complaint is gone & removed the
has fattened. I had heard of Mr Watson's failure & which I had ~~seen~~ but I had
hoped that L. C. had secured the notes, when I was in Calif. Last I mentioned my
fear to Col. B. the purchased Irish linen I understood to the full amount of his
debt, I think they must have been imprudent enough to deal with him
afterwards. I wish this may be the only loss they may sustain
by ~~it~~ I have always had fears about the land Tenon
land ~~got~~ from John Lane ~~advised~~ the sale of it, but they are
too ~~young~~ ^{young} to think of doing so. Remember me to all particularly
your mother and am

Yours affectionately

Leven Powell

Richmond & Culpeper Court House Virginia

Feb 25

RICHMOND, FEB. 25, 1798

Major Burr Doct

Middleburg
Lower Down County
Virginia

Augusta Feb 12 1798

[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting at the top of the page]

[Faint handwriting on the right side of the page, possibly a letter or receipt]