

Dear Sir

Philadelphia 6<sup>th</sup> June

your favor of the 10<sup>th</sup> instant received and I am pleased to find you mean to service to the district as their representative. As to the choice of the people I do not doubt your success because they must at length <sup>see</sup> that he ought not to be a person, who has invariably been in opposition to the measures of our government, but a person who can be relied upon to support the honor and essential rights of our country against all the world & especially against France whose principles & measures are in my opinion incompatible with rational liberty and every species of social happiness -

I take it kind in you to mention the little slander that is in circulation respecting me, and surely I ought to congratulate myself in finding nothing worse has been falsely fabricated to injure my good name. I am unwilling to believe Miss Gade can have been the author of such a story. The facts are truly these. I did not receive Miss Gade's money until the month of March - & before I did receive it I had a great deal of trouble in visiting the office at least more than six different times - a very few days after I received

her my bill for the whole amount  
not less of her packet including the powers  
which was nearly a dollar: for you must  
not all my letters are charged with postage, and  
the privilege of franking has been denied to my letters even  
during the present session by the senate rejecting a bill  
that had passed the other house for this purpose.  
My bill was drawn on Samuel Lan kin my agent  
who at the time ought to have had the funds for  
paying it, and was most positively ordered to pay it  
and whose letters inform me that it has been paid.  
A short appeal to have been delayed till the (about 6th  
October) till the last of April or beginning of May: &  
for this delay Mr Lan kin has been long ago most severely  
truly reprimanded by me.

I must add that some informal powers of attorney  
were sent to me early in the winter to draw this money  
and though I personally applied and endeavoured to  
remove the objections I did not succeed. I wrote to  
Alexandria that no use could be made of them,  
and they remained with me, <sup>a considerable time</sup> for a private hand  
to carry back in order to save the postage to Miss  
Dade. In the spring I received sufficient powers of  
attorney which enabled me to receive her money in  
March, as before I have stated. You are at liberty  
to make what use you please of this letter.

I have on sundry occasions taken trouble for ~~Miss~~  
Miss Betty Dade as well as her sister  
~~young ladies~~, and I have done it without ever sup  
posing it possible, I should have been required  
in this manner. ~~Miss Dade's case is not to be~~  
~~considered as a precedent about the business of the~~  
~~individuals mentioned. However, conscious of my~~  
perfect propriety of conduct in this particular  
I shall feel no uneasiness about the matter, and the  
real state of the case, I am sure every person will have the same  
opinion on it.  
Relative to our envoys, upon a view of all circum  
stances known here either officially or otherwise  
it is my opinion that they are all, at this  
day upon the sea returning home without  
any treaty being made and probably without  
the reception of them. Money from America  
in some form or other, is a civil question  
preliminary to a treaty, and this is out of  
the power of the envoys to agree to -

I am sincerely your friend  
and obedient servant  
Charles Lee

Col Leven Powell  
in Middleburg Virginia

(6)

MS. A. 9. 2  
June 6 - 1798

Colonel Leven Powell  
in Middleburg  
of Fauquier County  
Virginia

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