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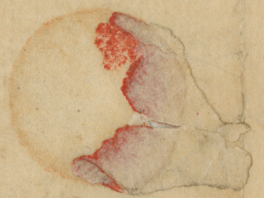
Phil<sup>a</sup>. Feb. 7. 1791.

Dear Sir

Since we left you we have heard nothing of our neighbours except once or twice of Robt. Hill. To my inquiries he has observed generally that they are all well. I infer therefore in the case with your family, or he would certainly have inform'd us otherwise. Immediately on our arrival here we had our child inoculated. The said child is now very favorably & soon recover'd from it. About three weeks past Mrs. Monroe accompanied her brother who came for her, to New York with the child. I expect <sup>them</sup> back in the course of next week. They were well when I heard last from them. we expect to leave this for Virg<sup>a</sup> on the 4<sup>th</sup> of March & to be in Albemarle sometime in the course of that month. An act has pass'd admitting the district of Kentucky into the union. Her members are to take their seats in June 1792. according to the compact between Virg<sup>a</sup> & the district. Vermont has adopted the constitution & her members are daily expected.

The bill imposing an excise has pass'd the H. of R. & is now before the Senate - This latter body will I

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think modifying it, so as to make it less objectionable.  
It will however still bear heavy on distillers.  
but is yet impossible to determine what power it  
will assume.

a bill establishing a national  
bank has passed the Senate & is now depending  
before the H. of R. Its stock is to consist of 10,000,000  
of dollars 2. to be subscribed by the U.S. & the balance  
by individuals in shares of 400 dollars each.  
 $\frac{3}{4}$  of a share to consist of securities bearing an  
interest of 6 per cent. &  $\frac{1}{4}$  in specie.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the sub-  
scription to be paid every six months till completed.  
I had objections to the plan, as exceeding the powers  
of Congress; for it appears to me they have no autho-  
rity to grant an exclusive charter to any one  
company. It is not given in the enumeration of the  
powers in the constitution, nor does it appear to me  
to flow from any that are enumerated. but in  
this I may be wrong. The vote in the Senate was  
6 against it & 10 for it. It will likewise pass the H. of  
R. tho' all our members there are against it.

Great Britain & Spain have settled their differences  
without a war - we hope your family are all well.  
Tell Miss Peggy Elizabeth has had the advantage of her - in pas-  
ing paper through the small post. Remember us affec-  
tionately to Mrs. Lewis & believe me  
sincerely yr. friend & servant  
Jas. Monroe