

James Monroe.

Nov-15-1804

2⁰⁰ May 23
1804

Dear Sir Mr Bankhead arrived here on the 10th Inst; my first opinion was that he should set out immediately for Rotterdam, but upon conversing with Mr Purviance we concluded that he should go to Lisbon. - Some suggestions which I heard yesterday, now considerably strengthened by the publications of to day (which are inclosed) have induced me to advise that he should stay here till we have some certain direction as to which will be the best rout for him to take. - I mean if the weather permits to see Mr Purviance again this evening upon the subject, & with respect also to some cypher dispatches which under present circumstances I think should be sent to Paris & not to Lisbon; Mr Cutler going to Paris offers an opportunity. - You will observe that there was a loss yesterday at which the foreign Ministers except D'Andrage & Purviance

15 Nov 1804
 from Mr Bankhead

were present, probably the latter was not aware
of it; - There is a sort of delicacy about this
subject, & therefore I do not say to Mr P., but
I think it might be well if he could attend
these ceremonies, & take the liberty of suggesting
it to you that if you should see with me the
probability of any wrong constructions being
placed on his absenting himself, you may
if you think proper mention it to him. -

Nothing else occurs for me to communicate
with your attention, concluding that you
will hear at large from Mrs Purvance

I am Dear Sir

Always very respectfully & faithfully
your obt^l Serv^t

J. G. B. Irving

- Mrs^h Von Guildenpelm - has gone home -

- I beg to be respectfully presented to Mr & Mrs
Monroe