Richmond May 4. 1809.

My dear Sir

The opportunity afforded me by Mr Barrieau is too favorable to be neglected to escape without availing myself of it to inform you that I intend to remove in a few weeks from this place to Albemarle near Charlottesville, for the summer, if not permanently, tho the latter is more probable. I had contemplated the resumption of my station at the bar here, which had been so long vacant & which never occupied but for a moment in the interests of public employment, & with that view I spent some & spend other time in my return home to gather such information of its state & prospects, as to make me to decide with advantage. I find however so little encouragement from the organization of the courts, & the absence the professional pursuit would subject me to, & the loss incident to it, in my other concerns, that for the present at least I shall decline it. Your further letters I have to request that you will have the goodness to address to me as above.

I should have written you before this in reply to your last favor, had I not been frequently absent, by the attention due to my private affairs in other quarters, & had not the scene presented by our political vibration, been of so fluctuating a nature as scarcely to afford ground for any rational political calculation. I was always

of opinion, had our govt. ratified the treaty wh. it rejected, that we shd. ~~have never~~ not have had to complain of the British orders, or the French decrees. An adjustment with Engld. wd. have secured us what we wanted of that govt, & prevented France from refusing what we had a right to de=mand. I shd. not be surprised if we shd. get into some such state, after committing many blunders, & suffer=ing much misfortune. I hazard this however in con=fidence, but shd. the expectation be verified, it perhaps bally the above remark.

My house in Albemarle merits rather the appellation of a Cottage than a Cottage; but shd. you ever visit Virg.a I shall be happy to see you at it, as I always shall be to hear from you, being with great respect & sincere regard very truly yours

Jas Monroe