

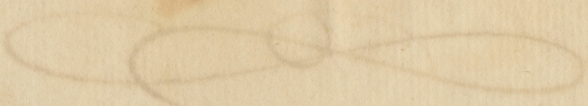
Citizen Monroe,

Minister Plenipotentiary from the
United States of America,

at Paris.

1795

Luigi Puckler



that the former has an ugly sore on his right hand, which
I believe has been of more than two years standing. I have
sometimes feared it would end in a Cancer. I believe it
is at present better than usual. Nelson is at last fixed
at the Indiana fields - His neighbour Tyler was very ill
the last fall but has recovered his health pretty well,
and is as much of a Sam - Guloth as ever. Our
friends the Bishop, Andrews, & Barrand, with their
respective families are very well. I am under much
concern for my son Luder, who has been in a very ill
state of health for more than six months, almost
without a hope of amendment. I hope you have
been so happy as to retain your own health, &
to see your family in the same state, a Blessing
which I now feel how to estimate; my family
having been most astonishingly sick since last
August - Never was sickness more general,
or more fatal in Virginia, than since that period.

My letter half joins me in respectful good
wishes to you & cly. Mr. Menron, & little Eliza.
As you cannot mistake the writer, I shall not
subscribe my name, but this letter should
fall into improper hands - but you will at
a single glance know it to be from one of
your most affectionate friends



the public debt, be equally as assiduous in improving the
Lands? — This man is re-elected for Charleston. Young
Rutledge & my brother were his opponents. The latter
has lost his only Son & Child, since you saw him. I
have not heard from him for some months. — Griffin
declines — Burrill Bepet, Miles Lelden, Meriwether
Jones, & another are candidates for the vacancy.
Page, I hope will be re-elected — young Braxton, of the
eastern shore will it is said oppose him. Parker will
be re-elected without opposition, it is said, & merely for
want of an opponent. — Madison, having married, it is
said means to retire: I hope otherwise. His & your
friend Jefferson has had much ill health last fall
but I hear he is mending. The resignations of Hamilton
& Knox have made way for Wallcut, & Pickens.
Mr. Cobb it is said will succeed the latter as post &
=master General. Griffin was however shaker of,
here, for some times.

Expectation is all alive on the subject of Mr. Jays
Treaty, which was brought to Norfolk last week by a
Capt. Barney, who will probably reach Philadelphia
to morrow. The treaty-mongers appear to expect very great
things — if the outline given us be just I think they will
be disappointed. As to the surrender of the western parts
miss steps I think cannot be laid on an article
which postpones for two years longer, what should
have been done ten years ago.

To quit the great world & speak of our friends —
Our Coadjutors Brant & Nelson are both well, except

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The house was nearly equally divided, but the Democrats at length warded off the intended Blow: the president in his reply evidently appeared dissatisfied, with the address of the house. — A debate of ^{one, or two} several days took place on the substitution of the word year in the address, for the particule a. — The Bill for naturalization of foreigners was thought to require amendment: and among other things it was required that foreign nobility should renounce their titles on becoming american citizens — a debate of several days ensued, with great heat. Could we have supposed this to have happened in a really democratic republic. The clause however passed, by a considerable majority: in all the cases the same individuals were generally found linked together. An admirable specimen of the unbiased conduct of that body. — All the late taxes, including the Carriage taxes, have been continued to the year 1801. to form a fund for redeeming the public debt. A friend of yours in this place refused to pay the carriage tax, upon the ground that it was a direct tax, & not imposed according to the Constitution. — So did Mr. Pendleton, Mr. Roan, Col. Taylor, Mr. Page, & some others. — no steps have yet been taken to enforce it: and I suspect that it will hardly be brought to a judicial test. Campbell, acknowledged to me that the tax was unconstitutional, but said he should insist that the Courts had no power to pronounce the Act void. — Smith of S. C. at the head of a committee has made a report in favor of selling the western lands, to pay off the national debt —

Timeso Banagos, at Dona Jereñtes.

Will not those who have been so affiduous in engaging

4/ I believe, suggested by private Expectations, which were defeated by a large majority - An Attack was intended upon the Gov. for accepting the Command of the militia, but destructively warded off, & a vote of thanks substituted for one of indirect Censure. - Brooks was chosen his Successor; his only opponent Mr. Wood. - Dawson, Wilson Nicholas, Stevens T. Mason & Farewell were Candidates for supplying your place, & Taylor's who resigned - the two latter were chosen. I think Nicholas lost it by Mismanagement. Farewell having made a vacancy in the Court of Appeals a warm opposition to our friend C^P - whose pretensions were indisputable, in the order of succession here tofore observed, was commenced. His fellow Townsman who was next on the list presumptuously declined the Contest with him. - So did some others - When the Election came on all the Judges of the Gen. C. were successively nominated by Mr. C. L. - A member got up & made a speech recommending Mr. Roan in the strongest terms. - The Ballot proceeded immediately and he was chosen by a large majority. - This made a vacancy in the Gen. Court - Madison of Port Louis, & young Paul Carrington were opponents - the latter carried it by a single vote. ~~His vote also was forfeited~~

I am not able to inform you what Congress have done in their late Session. The pres^t's speech you will observe indirectly censured the Democratic Societies. A party in Congress seized the occasion with avidity. Ames, in one of his Speeches observed, That that Liberty which Coetry had exalted into a Goddess, History proved to be a Cannibal. A fine republican sentiment this. -

for a privateer - The militia of Richmond & Petersburg were ordered out under Brig. Gen. Marshall to march down to Smith's field to tierce her. - She was libelled under the Act of Congress prohibiting warlike Equipments; but the Jury acquitted her, & I believe very properly. Linclain however hath been indicted, as I understand in the Fed. Court. - if so the Ind. is still depending. - Upwards of 100 people I hear were brought down from the back parts of Pennsylvania to be tried in Phil.^a for their crimes in the business of the Insurgency. - The Goaler refused to admit them to supply themselves with bedding &c. ~~was~~ at their own Expence, declaring that Straws was good enough for Traitors to lie on. Some have been bailed - the remainder are waiting the arrival of the Specy - commit, in the Goal of Philadelphia.

The Gen. Assembly at Phil.^a expelled the western members chosen in October, on account of the Insurrection. Gallatin in a most able speech clearly proved there was nothing like Opposition to our Gov.^t after the 11th of Sept.^r He also shew'd most clearly the unconstitutionality of the measure: but who can restrain the zeal of good men, actuated by the Love of their Country! Mr. M^r's re-election to the Seat he has occupied for six years, has been supposed to be that eminently advantageous event to the public felicity, which this measure was intended to secure. Whether it hath produced the desired effect I have not yet heard. - The Appointment of our friend Jones as a Missionary to Kentucky is so immediately connected with the western Affairs that I can not omit to mention it. In what Character, or with what powers he hath gone is not known. - A motion was made in the house of Delegates to declare his Office vacant. It was I believe

therefore will rumble a Village Gazette, where the Depredations
committed by Hawks & Foxes upon the neighbouring poultry,
^{will} find a place with the great Achievements of Nations.

The Storm in the West was brewing, or rather ready to burst
when you left us. The Secretary of the Treasury in an extra-
official letter gave a circumstantial detail of its rise and
progress to the pres^t. — If I had the paper that contained this
letter I would enclose it, because the Secretary seems to have
forgot that he had no right to advise the pres^t. to have recourse
to coercive measures, & I should wish for your opinion how
far I am right in this Idea. — Judge McKean in his report
to the Executive of Penna.^a considered the acts of violence as
amounting to nothing more than a sudden riot, which the civil
arm might have punished — but from the pres^t's proclama-
tion it appears that Judge Wilson thought otherwise, and
the militia were first ordered to hold themselves in readiness
and afterwards to march to the number of 15000. under the
command of Gov^r. Lee. — They found no body in arms to
oppose them; and after having undergone Services that might
be compared to those of Caesar's tenth Legion (as one of the
papers expressed it) returned without giving Gov^r: some little
opposition was made to the Draft in Perry County. — Two
persons, were taken up & committed to Goal on a charge of
high Treason agt the U. S. by a zealous magistrate, who
construed what might have been deemed a meeting in an Army
into the atrocious offence before described. They lay in Goal
six weeks, were at length bailed by Judge Griffin, and at the
succeeding Term discharged for want of prosecution. One
Leclair had before this time attracted the notice of the
Gov^t. towards a veful which he was supposed to intend

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Williamsburg March 8. 1795.

If I had appeared tardy, my worthy friend, in writing to you since you left America it was by no means my Intention to be so - but I found myself at a loss into what Channel to put my Letters. - I was told indeed I might address them to the Secretary of State; but I am not on such a footing with the Gentlemen who now fills that office, as to give him the trouble even of a Letter. I have resolved to enclose them to the French Consul at Norfolk, with whom I have some Acquaintance, and who will, I hope take Care to forward them.

I saw with pleasure an Account of the very cordial reception you met with from the Convention of France. I saw likewise the vote of Union of the Colours of the two Republics, & your Letter on that occasion. This is all that I have seen in the public prints respecting you; and as I have no political Correspondents, except one Page, who seldom writes, & never writes much, I have heard nothing of you through private Channels.

Your Connexion with the great number of active politicians in our Country must afford you sources of Information far superior to what a sequestered mortal, such as I am, can give you - nevertheless I mean to give you a sketch of the most remarkable incidents, public & private, as they relate to our friends, that have happened within my knowledge or recollection since you left us; for I know by Experience that Absence renders many things interesting, which we might pass over lightly did they happen under our own Eyes. My Letters therefore

Therefore