

here might be disposed of in favor of Mrs. Buckner & family,
& Andrew. £ 50. shg. for instance in favor of the former, part in relief
savings & the residue in educating a child or providing a tu-
tor for the family, according to their wish. I say the balance to
Andrew, but if he requires & you can give more I wish it
done. In truth my expenses have been great here, and still
are so, but it is much my wish to see these few friends all in
my power.

We lament much the ill health of Penak & am
anticipate the worst, but hope for her recovery. Her loss will
be severely felt by Mrs. M. who wd. not admit that it were
possible to replace her, by 1/2 dozen in her place: indeed she
is valuable as a sensible & honest servant, as well as most capa-
ble, and whose loss wd. never be repaired. We are particularly
gratified that she is well taken care of & wants for nothing. Peter
we hope is well, who, & those under Hoff we wish to be humanely
treated, well clothed &c. I send a letter from I thought had
gone by a former opportunity.

The success of the French in
Italy has obtained an advantageous peace with Sardina,
Tuscany, Parma, & put all Italy in terror. Indeed they all the pow-
ers are seeking peace & giving sums of money & their finest pic-
tures as the price. The pope has offered to write a letter to
the people of the Dondre to reconcile them to the govt. on one
of the conditions, & to pay down 15,000,000 of livres as another
to the latter of which some attention is paid. An advantage
is gained also on the Rhine, but the article was not of
great moment & of course the effect tho' important not very im-
portant. I will endeavor to write Mrs. Jefferson also
by this opportunity if possible, to whom & other friends
we so kindly as make my affectionate regards. I'll Joseph
I wish to hear from him. We regret much the death of James
we are well & wish you so. W. Ford. H. H. M. J. M. M. M. M.

to Mrs. J. M. J.

Paris June 9. 1796.

Dear Sir

I have just rec^d. yours of the 1st of Juny. last, & the
first for a great length of time past. In future it will probab-
ly be best to forward yr. letters by the way of Engl^d. address^d
to the care of our minister there, since the misadventure proceeds
from the fear of the capture of compromittment, in case they are board-
ed by M^t. ships as they generally are and letters for France are
sunk & searched. In consequence they throw them in the sea
as soon as they leave the capes or before.

Joe is well & upon
the whole doing better than at any time heretofore. He is
reading the higher latin authors & is abt. beginning his gram-
mar, & is abt. to know something abt. it. He is a pretty good arithmeti-
cian, understands something of geography, & dances & gen-
erally well. The Professor pays great attention to him, & I
certainly do not fail to admonish him sufficiently. By keep-
ing him habitually at work, with excellent examples of young
men before him, of which there are many of the French boys
at school, & a good foundation may be laid in the different
branches, & a considerable improvement in his temper wh^{ch} he
is too much disposed to indulge. He understands & speaks the
French well. I shall send him yr. letter & return you an
answer soon. The oftener you write, the better. His great
wish is to be at home, to have a good horse, a gun &c.,
sometimes he tells the Professor he has no occasion for a
profound education, he can do without it &c. Miss the

Professor checks & so do I. I only mention it that you may give what aid you can in support of what we do, & know that that propensity has pretty strong hold of him. The Professor (I mean the principal for those we were) renders month by a report of the conduct of all the young men under his care & wh. he reads to them before sent in. For the future I will forward these to you. In the latter reports he speaks of him more favorably & truly. It will be well that you appear to know in yr. & next that such is the practice - that his commencement was bad - & that his improvement gives you pleasure. His expenses are pretty heavy at present. His board & tuition (exclusive of drawing fencing music & dancing) is 50. Louis, & to which when his cloaths are added & all other incidental expenses, at least half that sum more may be counted. Of his cloaths he is not over careful, tho' I let him occasionally suffer a little in consequence of his inattention. I am thus particular that you may ^{be} able to be equally so in yr. communications to him. I will send you a statement of the whole expenditures in his behalf since our arrival if I can make it out. But till the first of 1797. last till when the payment was in paper it cost ~~but~~ less than since.

I was happy to see the details you gave me of my affrs. At present I can send you nothing, but in case you are pressed, with ans. yr. draft upon three months sight, or two, for two hundred & fifty pounds, stop. payable in London or Hamburgh. I lately sent a draft upon Judge Mathew for 200 dollars in favor of Mr. Gard to be paid you. His son is here under my care

don't out of whose expenses the draft is made. I hope you will receive this. Upon returning home I flatter myself I shall be at ease, & in the interim trust that every farthing wh. I owe will be paid without wh. there can be no case. I am glad you have adjusted the business of Madras & I hope in a manner satisfactory to his children. To me it is quite so. Purchase of his property what you find convenient & make Hogg push forward his improvements. Tell him I am surpris'd he does not make better crops, & that I look for the deficiency in the general improvement of the estate: melons, land, orchards, &c. By the bye if you do not give strict orders, I expect to find no such improvements; perhaps a greater deficiency in those respects than even in the crops: but if you stay in Abb. this summer it will do well.

I have always intended paying Joseph's expenses in Scotland or giving him an equivalent & more in case he paid them, in something at home. But as my reputation was concerned in the payment of those debts, I preferred paying them, & adding afterwards to his aid at home what I did. With this view I asked in many preceding letters & now repeat it, whether he had paid any part thereof & request - wh. in case he had not, that he wou'd not, & in that case that he wou'd send me the amt. as stated by Hotber of Edinburgh. I fear all those letters misser'd, but shall thank you for information on this point as soon as possible. Your residence for a while in Abb. will be of great use to him, & enable you to determine in what manner to give him the other aid above spoken of.

I mentioned also my wish that the amt. laid out for Joseph