

Leemec 514

Richmond Oct. 20. 1802.

Dear Sir

you will receive within a copy of my communication relative to the conspiracy of the slaves in 1800. with the documents supporting it. On consideration of that incident & other circumstances our patrol law was altered so as to increase its energy, a guard of a company was raised and stationed in this city. The arsenal at the point of fort Mifflin was demolished, the arms moved to this place & put under protection of the guard, and a law passed authorizing the execution in certain cases to transport without the limits of the ^{state} slaves condemned to suffer death. These are all the measures adopted by the legislature wh. have any reference to the subject in question, except a correspondence wh. is devoted to be carried on between the President & Gov. relative to providing a place to transport such offenders to, wh. is yet not brot. to a conclusion. On this last point so incomplete is the project, that there is nothing positive in it, except the idea wh. I have communicated. All these measures are to be seen in the acts of that session & those wh. have succeeded. There is no topic, of this or any other kind, on wh. you shall not at all times command my unreserved confidence. The journal enclosed contains a part of the case at Norfolk relative to the conduct of an Alderman, & the British Consul, in delivering up & sending a man charged with murdering in the West Indies to the W. Indies, wh. is not sent because I presume you saw the statement when it was communicated to the legislature. It shall be sent if you did not. It is a matter of extreme regret that I have not met you somewhere this year as you gave me reason to hope I should. I shall certainly await myself of some occasion of doing it if possible in the course of the winter. As soon as my term expires

Monroe James
20 Oct. 1802

in this office I shall resume the practice of the law, take a
house here wh^{ch} is already engaged, and apply myself closely
to the duties of the profession. I own money and do not
see how I am ever to be at ease otherwise. Perhaps I may
not in this mode, considering the time I have lost & the esta-
blishment of others. It requires courage to engage in the
business under such circumstances, but I have weighed the
motive, the difficulties in and have made up my mind
to make the experiment. You know I have industry and
perseverance. We desire our best regards to Mrs. Meser &
yr. family & I beg you to be assured of my constant & sin-
-cer friendship.

J. M. MONTGOMERY

I rejoice much at the success of the republican in-
-terest in yr. State. I trust and think the cause is gain-
-ing strength every where.