

Washington Decr 31<sup>st</sup> 1826

My dear Sir

I heard yesterday what afforded me great pleasure, as it had come the gentleman who gave me the information; that the Bank of the U.S. had agreed to accept, at your own valuation, payment of your debt, in Albemarle land. This manner of acceding to the proposal of your friends, must make this settlement doubly acceptable to you, should you, as I have no doubt you will, decline the valuation yourself, by appointing others to make it for the Bank. Mr. McSeen, the Postmaster Genl. gave me this agreeable intelligence, at the College of Williamsburg, in the presence of Mr. Clay, and Genl. Barbour.

To the last of these gentlemen, I delivered your memorandum, the day after my arrival here, and he promised immediate attention to it. I have, also, delivered your messages to Messrs Ingraham, Tomlinson and Hayne. in co-  
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operated, in the passage of your bill, at the last session of Congress. - They are all sorry to hear it has not afforded you complete relief.

We have had a meeting of our delegation respecting the condition of Mr Jefferson's estate. It was censured by Mr Faye - well, and ended in nothing. I entered the meeting after Mr F. had commenced his explanation of the object, ~~of the meeting~~ and did not hear some remarks of his, which have since been disclosed, publicly. They were, that this administration sought to connect themselves with Mr Jefferson's name, and influence.

Mr J. Randolph left this place, on Monday, after requesting me to present a memorial to Congress, in behalf of his family. This request, I cheerfully met, by an assurance that, if I could not serve him better, by getting some other gentleman to hand in his memorial, I would do so. I prepared a memorial for him, which I forwarded, on Tuesday last, and think it probable Mr J. sending me determined to present it, if he will not, will agree to take that task upon himself, as I have desired him to do. If not, my friend Col. Hamilton will cheerfully comply with the wish I have expressed to him, to become its organ to the house.

It simply asks permission to substitute Mr J.'s estate, in one of the bills which this city is permitted

to draw, for an equivalent value of its money prizes: a mode of disposing of this property, suggested by the contractors for the lottery, and approved by Mr Randolph, before he consulted me. It has been ascertained, that a lottery, for the sole purpose of disposing of Mr Jefferson's lands, will not succeed.

Our canal, we hope, is once more, in a fair way towards the commencement, at least, of its work. We are believed to have surmounted, the unexpected obstacle, thrown in our way, by the extraordinary estimates of the U. S. Board of Internal Improvement. This hope of mine will, if realized, give you pleasure as we owe much of the ground, on which it rests, to the liberal aid you gave us, while at the head of the Government. - I took up my pen to apprise you, that I had attended by your commissions, and, before I lay it down, I perceive I have made a long letter -

With esteem and regard,

I am, D<sup>r</sup> Sir,

your friend & servt

C. F. Mercer

Col: James Monroe

~~James~~ Jan 2 1826  
St. Marks

Col: James Monroe

Rak-Hile

near Hille

See down Court  
Misa