

kindness by our old acquaintance, who had never pro-
mised themselves such an event. Our daughter is now
with us, attended by a musician she pursuing her stu-
dies with advantage. I am Dear Sir very sincerely
your friend & servant
Jas. Monroe

Jas Monroe 1803

London Sept. 29. 1803.

Dear Sir

I have written to none of you since I left the States,
from motives I know you will approve when they are
communicated to you. I reserve a full explanation to
a meeting with you and my other friends; at present I shall
only say, that being charged with important duties, in de-
licate times, I have thought it better to rely on the partiality
& indulgence of my friends under a seeming inattention, to at-
tribute it to a justifiable motive, than hazard any thing by
corresponding with them. It is at all times a slight proof of regard.
Too much has occurred to me in my country, of a nature
too impressive, for me ever to forget it, or indeed to be
indifferent to what concerns its welfare or that of my
numerous & most estimable friends there. I was sent on
an interesting mission and I have laboured with my best
energies to make it useful to my country. I will venture
to say that the affairs of Louisiana, and the present peace-
ful & happy situation of the States is due to the wise man-
ly and amicable policy of our government towards the
French republic. Had we broken the friendly relations
which subsisted between us & France, you would have
seen a very different result. As it is we are on good terms
with both powers and likely to remain so. In my ser-
vice here, I shall in obedience to the orders of our govt.

& my own wishes pursue the same object, of peace, and on the same principles, that is, in the best manner in my power, endeavour to obtain what is due to our rights & interests, in a manner the most conciliating to this government. appearances are very favorable to the continuance of a sincere & uninterrupted friendship between the two nations. When I began I did not intend to say a word on political topics. I have been led into it by the safety of the conveyance, and the sincere desire I have to communicate freely with you, and my other friends in the Council, and others in the town & circle in which you are. I know that nothing from me will get into the gazettes, however innocent, while it is confided to that circle of friends and patriots, since they know how apt it is to be misrepresented, & what injury may thereby be done.

I paid for the state in Paris on acct. of Genl. Washington's state a sum of money which in a letter written sometime since to our friend the Governor I desired might be repaid to you. I shall write him by this conveyance if possible & repeat that request on a presumption that letter did not reach him.

I wrote Mr. Madison from Paris and intimated a desire to see you if your circumstances permitted. As Secretary I informed you from N. York, that I was bound to accept the service of Mr. Purviance, by considerations wh. would justify me to you and other friends who seem willing to accompany ^{me} in that character. I do not think that any event is likely to occur, wh. will put it in my power to invite you to such a situation: nor do I think it worth your acceptance if it did. Should you however

be disposed to visit Europe, be assured that I shall be happy to receive you here, and that I will do every thing in my power to make the trip agreeable to you, and free from expense. I can furnish you with a room while you stay, and such accommodations as will make yr. expenses very inconsiderable indeed. It would give me great and sincere pleasure to see you, of wh. I need not multiply assurances. If in my power I will write Mr. Follen by this opportunity, but will certainly do it soon. You will be so kind as inform him of it, & assure him of my best regards. How is Judge Tyler & Moore indeed all the judges? of my most honorable friend Mr. Wythe I heard yesterday by Mr. Johnston of Richmond who told me he left him in good health. Is Doct. Hoosha in good health, as active in his public & professional duties and ardent in the cause of our country? That noble ardour which is founded in the sublimest virtue & patriotism, and which has so eminently distinguished many whom I at all times have in view, will I think never leave any of you. It has rendered service to mankind to an extent not to be calculated. Has Mr. May moved into his new house? Is Stuart in town? Tell me how the Governor & all the members are & Major Coleman & Mr. Hylton. I have heard that Mr. Randolph has purchased Major Duvall's seat in the country & that his family are there. I am happy to hear it because I wish him & them peace & comfort. Mr. Nicholas is I suppose in his new house & I hope he is satisfied with it. As to in truth in going into detail about my friends, I shall weary you if I ask what I wish to know of them all. I beg you to remember me to Mrs. Maffery.

On our arrival in France we plac'd our daughter at St. Germain with Mrs. Lampron where she staid till I came here. we were all rec'd. with the utmost