

information to Mr Smith (a Vermont Senator) whom he calls one of our
members in Congress — For fear some sly Irish manoeuvre should
give into the hands of Mr Cox some and his party at Philadelphia some
undue advantage — As I had before made communications to your Ex-
cellency — I waited some time expecting the Packet but my expectations
are of it frustrated and I cannot ^{get} gain any intelligence of its fate
on the 1st of Sept

I wrote back an answer to the Gentleman that I had already addressed
your Excellency and though I respected Mr Smith ^{with our other Vermont members} as I never had with
any of them an intimate acquaintance I should not attempt to introduce
myself to make intercession for another introduction * ^{(then said that}

^{was} myself embarrassed for want of the Packet that I cannot
lay before your Excellency those Particulars I expect it con-
tains but I expect the claim was not ratified by the British
Government, by this clause in the Doctors letter that Mr and Mrs ^{are}
are well disposed towards Capt Carvers American children and that
they had rather have a ninth of the land than the whole of her brother
and sisters would meet her there. when confirmed by the President
of the United States and the present Sachem."

* But had informed your Excellency of the subject myself, without the round of
formalities practised in Europe that I was emboldened to do it by the
advice of a ^{and I expected} ~~competent~~ ^{an old legislator in Massachusetts} — ~~with~~ ^{it} ~~and I expected~~
~~to me it would be the most ready way to a completion of~~
however had I rec^d his letter a week sooner I should have com-
plied with his Instructions and not thus have teased you
with my audacious intrusion —

I now feel more importunate for advice than when I before ad-
dressed you Excellency — though employed to negotiate
for others, I find myself unequal to the Task — I desire to
^{be informed} ~~know~~ whether your Excellency has Constitutional power
as Executive Officer ~~and that~~ ^{to employ you for information} to validate the claim
on the part of the United States: admitting you have the
disposition — Or whether it must come before the
National Legislature before you ^{it can receive your Ex^{ts}} ~~can give it your~~
Sanction. Or whether it must be a judicial Question

I must say to you I have no objection to your being informed of the subject may be that before Congress is convened from you
of the must be a question to lay before them in my
Intelligence

Did not yet
the large between
the done

I find in the 8 Section of the first Article of the Constitution ^{The Legislature} which answers my question ^{which answers my question} "To regulate
powers defined but cannot find a definition unless ^{which answers my question} "To regulate
commerce &c. and with the Indian Tribes" And in Sect 9 "No Bill—
or ex post facto law shall be passed" And Sect 10 "No State shall—pass
any—ex post facto law, or law impairing obligation of contracts,"

For the 2nd Article I cannot find my question answered The 2nd Sect. demon-
strates ^{that} the executive power shall be vested in a President—
the 2nd Section defines his Power— but I ~~do not find my question~~ ^{the problem is yet}
unresolved— Neither can I find the 3rd Article any satisfaction In the 1st Sec-
tion I discover that ~~Congress~~ ^{full faith} and credit shall be given to public acts records—
and in Sect 3—"The Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful
rules and regulations respecting the Territory— and nothing— shall be done
as to prejudice any claims &c."

Thus in my interrogatories are yet unanswered. I find ^{no one} amongst
~~one~~ of acquaintance able to give me the desired information
to proceed— I have exposed my ignorance and I again implore
your excellency's advice and assistance—

I have examined the Constitution but cannot find a solution
to the Problem on my Interrogatories are to me there unanswered
and I find no one amongst my acquaintance able to give me the
desired information I have exposed my ignorance and again
implore your ^{extensive} ^{political} ~~excellency's~~ advice and assistance
Sensible it ~~would be~~ ^{is} an object of your Excellency's attention to exting-
uish the Native right of soil over such a considerable portion of Territo-
ry would it not be expedient to ~~send~~ ^{appoint} ~~employ~~ some proper persons
to explore the country and discover the dispositions of the present
whether they are willing to ratify their engagement with Capt. Causer
and would not the 16th of next June ¹⁸⁰⁶ be a proper time to have the pre-
sents concerned in the mission on the premises? By predicting the dark-
ness sometime ^{previous} ~~before~~ to the solar Eclips Their credulity might be
wrought upon and they would discover a greater degree of superiority
in the Genius of the White People than those of their own Complexion
~~But~~ But I hope I shall be excused in attempting to hint any addi-
tion to your superior Wisdom— my proper sphere is to negotiate for the peace
of Capt. Causer— I cannot help fostering a secret ^{confidence} ~~hope~~ that you will
be pleased to write in answer to my request ^{confidential} obligation
upon your Excellency's unworthy thought humble servant J H

No 2

rough draft of a

Letter to L. J. M.

W. H. S.

Dated June 13th. 1805

1805



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