

Milledgeville March  
27<sup>th</sup> 1825  
J. M. Lafayette

This letter  
mentions the  
desire of returning  
in that direction

Captain Francis A. Lyon  
of the ship Cadmus

New York.

Milledgeville (Georgia) March the 27<sup>th</sup> 1825.

My Dear Captain, I received in Charleston your letter of the 1<sup>st</sup> of March, and if I delayed so much in thanking you for it, it was because I thought that I would a little later be still more sure of my father's determination ~~to~~ to his return to France. — I thank you my dear friend for your kind concern about my family misfortune. I depended upon it, knowing your heart as I do know it. — Those that are left to me are well, and I hope that we will find at New Orleans, the letters brought by the packet of the fifteenth of February from Havre, understanding that from New York, they go by way of Nashville to Orleans, more expeditious by than by this road.

My father thanks you for your letter to him, he does not think at all of returning by the way of England, and that is not to be thought of, by us neither, but he is determined to go by the route of the fifteenth of August, and would be very happy to think that the same friend, to whom he is indebted for his arrival in this blessed country, would pilot him home again. — It is certainly his sincere wish that matter should be arranged so. one only thing might happen which would on his part prevent his accomplishing that wish. that would be if by chance, any of the U.S. vessels was naturally

sent over to Europe, and if then a passage was offered to him by government: in that case he would think it a duty to accept. but we have no anticipation of any such offer being made.

I need not add my dear friend that Levasseur and myself will be very sorry if we do not return with you. he joins me in the hope that we will find ourselves again under the command of our dear Captain.

I write to Mr. Whitlock who has been so kind to us since we are in this country, to ask leave of him, to direct to him the things that we want to carry back to Europe, and already I have taken the liberty to give his direction, to some persons, who wanted to know how they could send some things to us in New York. — I must depend on you my dear friend, to beg Mr. Whitlock, to give orders to his house, so that an account of the expences, resulting from his compliance with my request, be kept, and given to me when I will be in New York.

I have no doubt <sup>but</sup> that you received a letter I wrote to you from Norfolk, in which I spoke a great deal about Opossums, and I rely so much on your friendship, that I am sure you have been so good as to enter into communication on that subject with Colonel Lomanowsky in Washington. — I am certain that a more wished for present cannot be made to ~~some~~ learned men in Paris, one of whom is a particular friend of mine, and who I know will be ever grateful to the person who will give an opportunity of making an important discovery for science in natural history by ~~the~~ observations on those animals who never could be got alive in Paris. — When I write to you in sending our letters for the fifteenth of May, I will

also send you one for the friend above mentioned.

farewell my dear friend, yours forever.

J. W. Lafayette