



wished for a Copy of your Report to Paris, which I believe I have already said  
was accordingly taken. The Law Books you mention I shall not forget to bring  
over, if any others occur to you that this place affords you have only to note them in  
your next sketch I should be desirous of receiving soon as the time of my departure  
from hence begins to approach. Your historical account of the English, Roman  
Thronian & French Codes contained the particulars which I most wanted to know  
but they do not seem as yet to have produced any thing very compliant  
on any branch of Lewis's procedure.

The more I turn over the topics of Roman Law the more I am struck with  
the resemblance between the perplexities of that system & those of our own on  
Property, such as the Second Volume of Blackstone exhibits. I really think  
the Roman laws in principle more intelligible. I believe the Civil Proceedings are  
nearly as complicated in the one as in the other & the two Systems may be well  
matched with the third vol. of Blackstone. The only consolation which I  
have in reading Statutes at present even cursorily as I do, is that I shall never  
be obliged to return to them again, or if ever it should happen to be necessary  
for me I shall more easily find my way over a beaten ground. All I want  
now is to make out a general topographical Map & fix in my mind  
a few of the fundamental principles on which this admirable System has  
been constructed.

I believe I have once before told you that I had had aside my first  
plan of general reading for Modern History according to the Books you were  
so kind as to point out - in order to follow the course of my friend the  
Quaker Books are always to be found. Such lectures are local advantages  
of which one must profit when the occasion offers. We have to day finished  
our Enterprise & have at length set down on the bank of the American  
War to look forward for the course of future events as yet hid in  
obscurity.

The impetuosity of the News which the first part of this letter announces  
must be an excuse for the conciseness of the rest. I am ashamed to say that at  
this instant I have not time to say more & wish to dispatch for the Post that  
you may not be kept in suspense any longer. Your news of the Declaration

authorized by government gives me great pleasure. I have none in return  
to send you, for as you know is only a kind of second hand News - the  
Code of their own Political Laws published a few days ago for public apper-  
tance would scarce be very interesting for you if not however you have  
only to say the word.

Adieu Believe me ever Yours Sinc<sup>ly</sup> & affect<sup>ly</sup>

(H. A. 1788)

I rejoice that Langens is to Petersburg - I wish  
him all the pleasure & success he can propose him-  
self - tell him so when you write.

He might by the bye make my best respects  
to the great Statue of my friend the Czar  
if he is yet stuck upon his Rock.

Geneva June 1<sup>st</sup> 1788.