Monticello, April 21, 1803

A thousand thanks, My Dear Mrs. Bache,
for your friendly letter, and I am equally obliged to you for the friendly construction you were so good as to put upon my apparent neglect of it. It found me the second day after my arrival at this place, in the midst of occupations opening, arranging, and all the various chores of beginning to keep house at a place so often deserted by its master, and when at all times there is so much to do.

that occasioned the loss of a post and before the return of another child had begun to break out with the measles which has since been going through the family, attended by consequences as bad as its symptoms, as no physician in the neighborhood and Mrs. Randolph constantly attended upon the affair charming business of clothing and clothing

that you can form no idea of the trouble and anxiety I have had in the last 6 weeks; however they are safely through it, all but Ellen who does not take it at the sleeping in the bed with her sister. During the time of her illness and became confirmed in the middle of it some

that I have been at length and never restored from musculature 11 days ago it is a subject of dread and anxiety, removed from what mind I should once more with the assurance I have suffered in the eye and on the county to

that I have restored for Congress on his county to

that I have not gone to 96 only against him, and would have gotten many more but the crowd in the court obliged me and the breakup of the weather obliged as many to go away with out voting and the breakup of the weather obliged as many
more from coming all decidedly friendly to him, however he lost in Drummond more than he gained in Abercorn owing to the truly royal influence of the Cobball, who holds almost all the wealth and that sort of respectability which wealth gives, in the county. Mr. D.'s friend, not daring to oppose them, stayed generally at home. The most determined and independent of them formed a guard about his person to protect him from insult, a necessary precaution in a country many degrees more savage & ferocious than any thing we have been accustomed to. Their election was not as full as ours, and 1 of those bad boys which may if occasion should require beocopied. Fluvanna we'll decide the contest of remaining with both give a majority. The event is however easily doubtful 2 much so as to baffle all human calculation from the insigni- fare of a weak stomach, which will not allow Mr. D. to drink grog with the people, and his total want of a musical ear which absolutely incapacitates him from dancing with them. Under consideration of the first magnitude in Fluvanna and in both of which Col. Cobball excels, the event alone can determine whether the want of such weighty advantage, can be possibly compensated for by good sense & virtuous principles. Their Majesty's the people must decide the contest between a sound head & heart on one side and a pair of light heel and capacious stomacks on the other after having impartially (I hope) weighed the merits of the contending parties they will in the plenitude of their wisdom.
I had almost said 'tenderly' decide and what was that decision is you shall hear by the next post Monday in the meantime Mr Randolph arrived late last evening and was again off call this morning consequently he could not write to you for which he desired me to apologise and to mention that the offer contained in your last of remitter to him the 200 th would be particularly acceptable at this time as an execution already taken out against him as bail for Doctor Bacha for Martin Key to the amount of nearly 100 dollars and that judgment will be unavoidably rendered against him for several hundred pounds which the present on last of money affairs renders it impossible for him to discharge without sacrificing he will however have self write fully to you upon the subject next week. The danger of losing the post obliges me to conclude, with every warm and affectionate feeling for your self and family and ardent wishes for your happiness and welfare believe me my Dear Mrs Bach's yours sincerely

M. Randolph