



Mount Vernon 26 Dec. 1798.

Dear Sir,

Having some cause to believe that the Vessel was captured, in which went the original of the enclosed copy, I forward a duplicate. —

I returned a few days ago from Philadelphia, whither I had been for the purpose of making some Military arrangements with the Secretary of War respecting the Force <sup>ch</sup> is about to be raised. —

It was there I received a letter from M<sup>r</sup>. Sandvide, announcing his intention of returning to America (partly on account of his health) — expressing in lively & grateful terms his sense of your attention to, & kind treatment of him; — adding that experience had more & more convinced him, that a sedentary life was incompatible with both his health & turn of mind (a sentiment he had often expressed whilst he lived with me) he wished for an appointment in the Army we were about to raise. — The application arriving in the nick of time, he stands arranged

as

as Capt<sup>n</sup> of a Company of Infantry is one of  
the Regiments <sup>with</sup> will be raised in Virginia,  
and it is necessary he should enter upon the  
duties thereof as soon as it can be made  
convenient. —

M<sup>r</sup> Envoiy Logan, who arrived at  
Philadelphia about the time I did, brings very  
pleasing accounts of the Disposition of the  
French Directory towards this Country. — He  
has dined with one — supped with another —  
and in short has been as familiar with them  
all (that were in place) as the hand is with its  
glove. — and is not a little employed in propa-  
gating this Doctrine in all parts of the U: States  
by means of the Presses which are at the com-  
mand of that Party. — He says the inclination  
of France to be upon good terms with the Uni-  
ted States is now so strong, that it must be our  
own Mismanagement, & disinclination to Peace,  
if our demands with that Country are not accom-  
modated upon terms honorab'd & advantageous to us.

Both houses of Congress were for-  
med before I left Philadelphia, but had not  
been long enough in Session for an opinion  
of the result to be prognosticated. — Their  
answers to the Speech would, it seems, have  
passed

passed unanimously, could Mr. Varnum of  
Massachusetts have retained his sleep. —  
How far this measure is indicative of a tran-  
quil & energetic Session, remains to be de-  
cided by more unequivocal evidence. —

The Alien & Sedition Laws, are now  
the desiderata<sup>in</sup> the Opposition. — But any thing  
else would have done, — and something they  
will always be, for them to torture, and to dis-  
turb the public mind with their unfounded  
and ill-favored forebodings. —

The family join me in presenting  
Mr. Murray and yourself with the Compliments  
of the Season, and in wishing you many hap-  
py returns of them. — With very sincere esteem  
& regard — I am — Dear Sir

Your most Obed. & Affec<sup>ed</sup>

Humble Servant

G. Washington

Will<sup>m</sup> V. Murray Esq<sup>r</sup>.

19  
1899

General Washington!

of 26. Dec. 1798.

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