

**James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson, May 11, 1782, from
Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe Correspondence,
Transcribed and Edited by Gerard W. Gawalt,
Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**

James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson

Richmond 11 May. 1782.

Dear Sir

As I so lately wrote you by Mr. Short & have since daily expected to see you here I did not propose writing you till after I shod. have that pleasure; but as I begin to fear you will not abate that firmness & decision wh. you have frequently shewn in the service of yr. country even upon this occasion & as I have had an opportunity since I wrote last of being better inform'd of the sentiments of those whom I know you put the greatest value on, I think it my duty to make you acquainted therewith. It is publickly said here that the people of yr. country inform'd you they had frequently elected you in times of less difficulty & danger than the present to please you, but that now they had call'd you forth into publick office to serve themselves. This is a language wh. has been often us'd in my presence & you will readily conceive that as it furnishes those who argue on the fundamental maxims of a republican government with ample field for declamation, the conclusion has always been, you shod. not decline the service of yr. Country. The present is generally coneiv'd to be an important era wh. of course makes yr. attendance particularly necessary, & as I have taken the liberty to give you the public opinion & desire upon this occasion, & as I am warmly interested in whatever concerns the public interest or has relation to you, it will be

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unnecessary to add it is earnestly the desire of, Dear Sir, yr. sincere friend & servant, Jas.
Monroe

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