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Title: Letter from William Bingham to John Montgomery

Date: August 10, 1783

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Coly Prollen Igomery Eng Tondon August 10th 1783 I have paid particular attention to your Intelution of a Semenary and the Western Side of the Susquehannah, would meet with Encouragement from the People of this Country -Policy dictating the Nicefrity of cultiva to freet Commercial Connection with the United Hater, has in View the immediate advantages to be downed therefrom - their far, we may place Legrandance on their professional attachment To what Extent they are deserous of promoting our Poosperity in any other have, Tomey Experienced must evener under the Wounds that the Sechion of So great a Port of their Empire, with an accumulation of an emmonse Debt has inflicted Neverthelip in So large a formmenty, com frond of Person of various Persents ed infrositions, there may parobably be found many, who would with to encourage our Undertaking - Men of pear statural Prencyles, Citizens of the World, who carry Here I dias beyond the contracted Limits of their own Society, a look on all Mankind as their Brothers Such Person well contribute from a Orenavolence of Heart - from a View of dignifying the human Species, by expanding the light of Thoraches Throwledge armongst them _ To Such Charaches Upplications may be made with a Prospect of I hope the Progress of this Buranes well begreat

be great grafied, of that the Encouragement it will of Pennylvania, will independent of foreign Success inner ets Tuccope, At can encounter no Ofsporten but from Men of designing Views, who are Solot to deberality of Santement, as to wish to make the Cultivation & Entension of Science, yeld to their partial new vous System of Politics The great Mumber of Reperentative in aparably, that their immance wetern tountry will furnish, increasing in a late with its Popul lation, maker it an Object of the most Inous Importance, to establish a Semenary of Learning amongst them To make Low, Regulations & Ordinances for a young fountry - to take in all fecums tones, physical & moral, majory grelative, profring & promanent, & ably combine them to the feroice of the public Weal, to encourage Population, At, Manufactures oformered, is a Busent that requires the extenset Estent of human Throw hose, With what approxime of Reasonog Orderedy then, can an Institution, formed for the Purpose of procuring Advantages, So frontial to those who are to be employed in ligislating for an Infant Republic, meet with Opposition? hope the attempt well be as un ucas full as et is diseputable; If dwang my lindence here

hew, or my ancueren thrown other Country, et Mould be in my Power to promote et Succep by, rendering it Sowices, I hall exteem my Time of author precedently well employed Vamue

When have your

Jno Montgomery Esq.

Dear Sir/

I have paid particular attention to your Request on the subject of making Enquiries how far the Institution of a Seminary on the western Side of the Susquehannah, would meet with encouragement from the People of this Country.

Policy dictating the Necessity of Cultivating a Great Commercial Connection with the United States, has in view the immediate advantages to be derived therefrom -- thus far, we --- may place Dependance, on their professional attachment.

To what Extent they are desirous of promoting our Prosperity in any other Line, Time & Experience must evince..

At present the British are smarting under the wounds that the Secession of So great a Part of their Empire, with an Accumulation of an immense Debt has inflicted.

Nevertheless in so large a Community, composed of persons of various Pursuits & Dispositions, there may probably be found many, who would wish to encourage our undertaking -- Men of pure & liberal Principles, -- Citizens of the World, who carry their Ideas beyond the contracted limits of their own Society & look on all Mankind as their Brothers.

Such Persons will contribute from a Benevolence of

Heart - from a View of dignifying the human Species, by expanding
the light of Knowledge amongst them -- To Such Character[s] application may be made with a Prospect of Success.

I hope the Progress of this Business will be great & rapid, of that the Encouragement it will meet with from our Legislature of the worthy Citizens of Pennsylvania, will independent of foreign Success insure its Success.

William Bingham to Jno Montgomery Esq. (Page 2)

It can encounter no Opposition, but from Men of designing Views, who are so lost to Liberality of Sentiment, as to wish to make the Cultivation & Extension of Science, yield to their partial narrow System of Politics --

The great Number of Representative[s] in Assembly, that this immense western Country will furnish, increasing in a ratio with its Population, makes it an Object of the most Serious Importance, to establish a Seminary of Learning amongst them --

To make Laws, Regulations, & Ordinance for a young Country to take in all Circumstances, physical & moral, necessary & relative,
passing & permanent, & ably combine them to the Service of the
public weal, ---- to encourage Population, Arts, Manufacturers, &
Commerce, -- is a Business that requires the utmost Extent of human
Knowledge, of cultivated genius.

With what appearance of Reason & Propriety then, can an Institution, formed for the Purpose of procuring Advantages, So essential to those who are to be employed in legislating for an Infant Republic, meet with Opposition? -- I hope the attempt will be as successful as it is disreputable, --- If during my residence here, or my Excursion thro any other Country, it should be in my Power to promote its Success by rendering it Services, I shall esteem my Time & attention peculiarly well employed --

I am so?

(On verso) Wm Bingham to Jno Montgomery