
**James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson, November 30,
1814, from Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe
Correspondence, Transcribed and Edited by Gerard W.
Gawalt, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**

James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson

Washington Novr. 30. 1814

Dear Sir

Despatches are recd. from our ministers as late of the 31 ulto., at which time the negotiation was depending. On paper, serious difficulties seem to be remov'd, and few only to remain, the principal one of which is however important. Impressment is laid aside, for the reason urgd in the instructions to our ministers, which is strengthened by being us'd as an argument on the part of the British minister. The Indian boundary is given up by them, with the claim to the exclusive command of the lakes, & occupancy of our shore for military purposes. A stipulation of peace for the tribes fighting on their side, to be reciprocal is all that is desird on that point, & to that our ministers have assented. In this stage, the uti possedetis was proposed, as the basis, of the treaty relating to limits, & was suggested by intelligence that British troops had taken possession of certain parts of Maine, which was rejected by our gent. Thus it appears that the principal obstacle to accomodation, is the desire of the British govt. to hold a part of Massachusetts, to retain which the war goes on.

Our gentn. think that if this difficulty was settl'd another would arise, beleiving that they are gaining time only, to see the result of negotiations at Vienna, which is very uncertain, but

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more likely to preserve peace, that produce war. The communication will go to Congress to day but presuming that it will not be in time for the mails I endeavour to give you an idea of the contents.

With great respect your friend & servant Jas. Monroe

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