

- - -

**James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson, May 3, 1820, 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 May 3. 1820.

Dear Sir

We are still destined to have further trouble with Spain. It was hoped that the minister lately arrived would have terminated every difficulty, but it appears that he has come to act the part of his predecessor to make complaints, demand explanations, & report them to his government, who may take as many years to conclude another treaty, as they did the last. This minister admits that there is no cause for his govt. to decline the ratification of the treaty but insists that it shall be made dependant, not on the conditions contained in it, but a stipulation that the UStates will form no relations with the So. A. Colonies, especially of recognition, until they be recognized by other colonies. I shall lay the correspondence before Congress, the latter end of this week.

I hope that your health is good, & that I shall be able to visit Albemarle, soon after the adjournment of Congress, & to find you there. The contiguity of my home in Loudoun to this place, together with a desire to attend to its improvement; with a view to its sale, where good land will sell for anything thing, to place me finally out of debt with a moderate subsistence in Albemarle will induce me to divide my time between the two places.

Library of Congress

Very sincerely your friend James Monroe

RC (Jefferson Papers, Library of Congress).