
**James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson, August 18,
1823, 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 Augt 18. 1823.

Dear Sir

The enclosed letters from Mr. Appleton & Genl. Dearborn will give you our latest intelligence from Cadiz & Lisbon, which you will find of a very gloomy & discouraging nature. After perusing them be so kind as to enclose them to Mr. Madison, with a request that he return them to me.

Our accounts from So. America, & Mexico indicate that those people must undergo great difficulties before they can attain a firm establishment on a republican basis. The great defect is the ignorance of the people, by means whereof, they are made in the hands of military adventurers, & priests, the instruments of their own destruction. Time, however, with some internal convulsions, and the form of our example, will gradually mature them, for

the great trust deposited in their hands.

I hope to see you in Albemarle in a few weeks, in good health.

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With great respect & sincere regard dear sir yours James Monroe

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