SIR

Having left Washington City soon after sending you a few seeds of the Jeffersonia, I did not receive the letter you wrote me in answer, until having heard there was a letter for me at the post office of that City, I made application for it and got it at my return from a journey to the Blue mountains of Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

It is with regret I perceive, that pursuits of an opposite nature to Botany and Natural History those ever pleasing Sciences for an enlightened soul, have weakened your familiarity with them; but am extremely thankful for your offer of recommending me to good Botanical Counsellors whenever I shall come to your part of the Country, it is likely I shall visit Virginia again next year, and shall then make use of your kind offer if I have the honor of seeing you again either at Washington or Monticello.

I am going to send this Winter a Herula Columbica to Dr. Mitchell for his Medical repository, it will contain a catalogue of nearly 800 plants I have found in the Territory or District
of Columbia both in Virginia & Maryland and a Short
Description or rather car. Description of several New plants.

The Western parts of the U.S. are at yet very little
Known. I intend to go and explore part of Kentucky & Ohio
next Spring. I wish I could go still further and across the
Mississippi into the unexplored region of Louisiana, but it is a
more imposibility in my private capacity to visit such unsettled
and as yet very wild Country. I wonder the American Govern-
ment have not sent some Botanist there along with Mr. Lewis &
Hunt, a Country containing perhaps a great Number of the
Valuable Vegetables of Mexico is worth and deserves highly to
be fully explored. If it ever seems worthwhie to you, to send
a Botanist in Company with the parties you propose to
make visit the Missouri or other Rivers, I can not forbear
Mentioning that I would think myself highly honored
with the choice of in being selected to make known the Veges
and Animal riches of such a New Country and would think
that glory fully adequate to compensate the dangers and
difficulties I encounte.

I remain respectfully, Sir
Your most obedient Serv.
Mr. Geo. Th. Jefferson
Philad. 24th June 1804.
H. S. Rafinesque