To Thomas Jefferson

Baltimore, July 26th, 1825

I cd have wished I had intended my dear Sir to see on the subject upon which I now write, but the indisposition of my sister urged me to place her under the charge of a friend to proceed shortly to Bedford on the Alleghany where I must join her as soon as I have procured some necessary information in this city.

You will receive from my paternal friend the prospects of the plan on which I feel very anxious for your opinion. Knowing how deeply the object it refers to has engaged your attention I venture to intrude it upon your valuable time without apology. Since my interesting visit to Monticello my course has lain chiefly within the borders of slavery. When even I have issued from there I have continued with me the impression of that one great national evil. It alone seems to threaten the prosperity as it alone defaces the beauty of this proud citadel of human liberty. Engaged by this one subject all my inquiries & reflections have had reference to it. Treasure by the results of these to consider the line as not yet desperate. I have (I fear you will think presumptuously) ventured to enlist myself among its combatants. The constancy & support afforded me to give one yet more courage & I reckon upon...
up approval. Of the prospects I send I have had a small number of copies thrown off privately. It has been drawn up with much history, but will I trust give a general view of the thing in object.

I should observe to you in, that it is only a general idea. That has been attempted of the plan, I do not speak of. I am encouraged to hope that very spirited measures will be taken in this state for the adoption of something similar. I understand from the friends of the hon. gent. that General Harper that the plan now offered bears much resemblance to a projected establishment of his in which he was just about to engage before his death. I have not as yet met with encouragement beyond my hopes. I ardently trust that you authorize me to do so that I may before many months communicate to you the commencement of our operations. We now move westward with some field officers in the cause. Mr. Papp (whose name is mentioned in the prospectus, whom we shall see at his settlement near Natchez) will either accompany me or follow immediately to Tennessee. An apparently very tempting property is offered (for such an establishment at a very reduced price) in Kentucky on the Tennessee. Here, is it not much trouble will be spared to the business be studied immediately there, being a good house at other improvements on the property. After the Tennessee line on Congaree. Second
Madam, before alleging of the West Volunteer men services as educators of the young, a
schoolmaster, a farmer, etc. When the location is made some good
philanthropists of New York engage to raise privately
part of the necessary funds. Of the promises of Negroes
we have received 300 in families from J. Gardiner and others from
this State. The sum of first expenses will be greatly
reduced.

I send two or three copies of the prospectus, with the plan,
met with great approbation you are perhaps one of the hands
of of philanthropic citizens. If any be disposed to supply
negroes to the establishment, the charges of the removal
will be paid at their arrival at the settlement. It will
be desirable at the commencement that field Negroes
(families) only be admitted. It is hoped that the
location will be made a farm opened by next
January. No time will be lost in communicating on
the subject to those with whom it may regard.

Mr. Davis, an experienced cotton planter of Mississippi,
whose acquaintance I lately made in New York, purposed
visiting Monticello & I will reply to any inquiries you may
wish to make respecting that estimable genius in the
profes.

Will you excuse this intrusion my dear sir & permis,
me to present this note my affectionate remembrances
to Mrs Randolph & her daughter,

Permit me, dear Sir, to subjoin the assurance of
my very highest respect. — Spencer Wright.
Thomas Jefferson

I understand that you have received the letter from Mr. Jefferson enclosing the bill for the services of the engineers. I have written to Mr. Jefferson to supply the necessary information regarding the bills for the work done. I have also requested Mr. Jefferson to make arrangements for the payment of the bills as soon as possible.

I will give you a copy of the letter as soon as it is completed. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Best regards,

[Signature]