Dear Sir

Washington July 13, 08.

I received last night yours of the 13th; the idea of your going to Europe by the vessel which sails on Sunday has been given up; consequently it will not be till the next which will go in 6 weeks, unless an earlier passage were to occur by some other vessel, which as it might excite false alarm would be more desirable. We have ceased to annex Secretaries of legation to our foreign missions, having found inconvenience from it. They have private secretaries of their own choice. Of course you will choose one for yourself. But be assured that if you accustom yourself to the use of the Polygraph you will make little use of your Secretary but to copy documents. I fear that the Secretary will endanger a suspicion of this mission which we think it all important to conceal until its arrival at its destination. On this head I would press you to be very peremptory with him. I think it impossible Culling should consent to go. The separation from his wife would in my opinion be a bar with the one or the other, if not both. Besides he has now everything prepared to enter on an important manufacture, where his superintendence is required in lieu of funds of which he was desirous, and a large expenditure has been made by his partner, which becomes dead the moment he absents himself. I shall set out for Mornicello on Tuesday or Wednesday. This will add two days only to the time of passing letters. Our port leaves this place on Tuesdays and Fridays. One word more, by all means take a Secretary who is a republican. It will place yourself in a much more acceptable view with the republicans, and the efforts of the Federalists in their present to prevent Dr. Par from yielding to our embargo (and if they succeed in it it produces inevitable war with that nation) places under a very general indignation at present. I salute you with assurances of constant affection.

Yrs. Short.

Mr. Jefferson
Philadelphia

Jefferson July 13. — 08

set Philadelphia a little course