WASHINGTON, March 4, 1822

Dear James,

I send you a letter from your father. I am glad to find by your last letter that you were recovering your health. I would soon be restored to your former state, excepting the fever had declined your trip to the south.

By your letter, I infer that although you now decline a special engagement, before marriage, to reside in N. York, that the family were very anxious for you to settle there. It is possible that you may find it for your interest to comply with their wishes, and in that case, it may perhaps be best for you to do it. In advising your settlement in Virginia near me, I did it on the idea that I should be able to give you good advice, as to the management of your concerns, to afford you books to read, I promote your views in any election, that you would also have your father and mother near you. But your residence in a thinly settled country, far neighbours,
of much intelligence, but accommodations, if
you purchase a farm, till others were
built, which would require time to erect my
an obstruction to be considered. Your fa-

our mother will in any event be near up,
I attended to, if you might render them any
aid then might require. I visit them occasion-
ally from New York, if that residence
would be found most for your advantage.
I mention these things that you may ma-

surely weigh them, if I do it now, that you
do it unprejudiced, at the present momen-
Perhaps even should you decide, or know
of your prospects at New York, the ad-

vantages at disadvantages of both places, I
give the preference to New York, you had

suffers not make your decision known be
for your message, as you would have
life credit for it both now and hereafter.

Mr. Monroe is much indisposed at pres-
ent having been attacked two days since.
Her fever has abated, but still it exists.
Most of the family are in tolerable
health.

your friend
James Monroe