

Dear Sir



Monticello Aug. 30. 07.

There can be no doubt that Toronda's claim for the money advanced to L. Pike should be repaid; & that his application to yourself is the proper one, we must attend to the money's being drawn from the proper fund, which is that of the war department. I presume therefore it will be ~~possible~~^{necessary} for you to apply to Genl. Dearborne to furnish the money. Will it not be proper to rebut Toronda's charge of this government sending a spy to Santa fe by saying that this government has never employed a spy in any case: & that Pike's mission was to ascend the Arkansas & descend the Red river for the purpose of ascertaining their geography; & that as far as we are yet informed, he entered the waters of the North river, believing them to be of the Red-river: and that, however certain we are of a right extending to the North river, and participating of it's navigation with Spain, yet Pike's voyage was not intended as an exercise of that right, which we notice here merely because he has chosen to deny it, a question to be settled in another way. from the present state of tranquility in the Chesapeake & the probability of it's continuance, I begin to think the daily mail may soon be discontinued and an extra mail once a week substituted, to leave Fredericksburg Sunday morning, & Milton Wednesday morning. This will give us 2 mails a week. I should propose this change for Sep. 9. which is the day I set out for Bedford and will exactly close one month of daily mail. What do you think of it? affectionate salutations.

The Secretary of State.

W. J. Johnston

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