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The Panton, Leslie Papers: Letters of Governor Gayoso to William Panton, 1797

Manuel Gayoso de Lemos



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THE PANTON, LESLIE PAPERS

Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, Governor of Louisiana,
to William Panton

New Orleans 21st Dec. 1797

Dear Friend:

I received your favour of the 5th inst., and I give you my sincere thanks of your attention to my Commission about the Coach. By this opportunity the Intendant sends the permission for the despatch of your ships; by that means every inconveniency will be removed, besides at present there are no privateers in this port nor do I find any talk about the fitting out of any as for this long time it has been the general expectation that of an universal peace, and you know that there are no great adventurers in this town. I am very anxious to know the movements in France since the last Comossion of September which I saypose you have seen in the public papers; if matters are settled there, I dare say the negociations will be renewed, tho it is probable that the English will wait until the return of their fleets abroad as their situation had several advantages over ours and of the other powers.

Do acquaint me with every particular that may come within your knowledge, as by duty and curiosity I am anxious to be informed how the world is going on. By my writing you will find that my fingers are very cold therefore I take leave until another time and remain with esteem

Your most obedient and
Wm. Panton, Esq. Very humble Servant
Manuel Gayoso de Lemos

McKee is gone to the Natchez
and from there intends through
the wilderness to the U. S.

New Orleans, 16 Oct., 1798

My Dear Friend:

By a vessel lately from Baltimore we received intelligence to the 8th Sep. in public papers, he sailed a few days after, and the Capt does not give any extraordinary news. Coll Howard examined two papers that he brought and gives you an exact account of the most interesting, which in my opinion is the removal of Mr. Pitt, if it be confirmed.

I am extremely busy therefore I rely on what my old friend tells you.

I have a distant hope that the affairs between the U. S. and France will take a favorable turn as I know that the energetic measures of the American Executive has made an impression in the mind of the French Minister, indeed this Baltimore Capt. mentions that it is thought there that hostilities will go no further. Adieu, tell me if absolutely the papers for your vessells will be wanted before they come from the Havana, for in that case I will send you mine immediately. I am with affection

Your Most humble Servt.

Manuel Gayoso de Lemos

Wm. Panton Esqr.

* * *

New Orleans, May 22, 1799

My Dear Friend:

In the hurry of business I was not informed of the immediate departure of Capt. Cook until I was to sign his pass, therefore it is not of my power to write long by this opportunity but will do it by the very first.

I received the Gazettes of the last Courier, they are much about the same that we had by the Valize.

I am very glad to hear the better success of your expeditions, if your ship comes here soon I shall

have a good pretext to do away any difficulty of despatching it to the Havana, as to Campeche, we will try but, this Intendant is so unreasonable that I hardly believe he will consent to it.

Mrs. Gayoso enjoys the thoughts of having soon her Coach. I have no more time than to request the assurances of the affectionate esteem of

Your Most Humble
Servant
Manuel Gayoso de Lemos

Wm. Panton Esqr.
Penzacola