

**Thomas Jefferson to Albert Gallatin, August 7, 1805,
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Leicester Ford.**

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY J. MSS. (ALBERT GALLATIN.)

Monticello, Aug. 7, 1805.

Dear Sir, —You have probably learnt through other channels that our Commissioners to Spain have terminated their mission without success in a single point. I have desired Mr. Madison to send you the papers, and when you shall have perused them I will ask a communication of your general view of what is expedient for us to do. I ask the same of the other gentlemen. When I shall have received them it will enable me to form precise points on which to ask their ultimate judgment. This will employ some time; but the case is serious, and is entitled to time and mature consideration. * * *

P.S. It seems essential to our success with England that we should not be understood as absolutely committed to war with Spain.