

- - -

**Thomas Jefferson to James Monroe, September 5,  
1822, from Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe  
Correspondence, Transcribed and Edited by Gerard W.  
Gawalt, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**

- - - - -

**Thomas Jefferson to James Monroe**

Monticello Sep. 5. 22.

Dear Sir

I have made it a rule and have pretty steadfastly deserved it, not to permit myself to be used as an instrument to trouble and embarras the government with sollicitations for office. Now & then a case occurs which from peculiar circumstances cannot be declined. Still I wish it always to be understood that I ask no departure from what justice, or the necessary rules of government may require. A year or two ago, in a letter to Mr. Secretary Thomson, I seconded the application of Mr. Gibson of Richmond for the reception of his sone into the corps of Midshipmen. The father is a most worthy man was jointly with my late friend and relation George Jefferson, for 20 years my correspondents in business in Richmond, of the purest integrity & personal worth. [He] is one of those who suffered in the general catastrophe of commerce which took place two or three years ago, has a numerous family, and is rendered helpless by the deplorable state of his health. I inclose you a letter lately recieved from him with the expression only of the gratification I should feel should the necessary rules of the government now admit his request. Accept assurances of my constant and affectionate esteem and respect. Th. Jefferson

## Library of Congress

FC (Jefferson Papers, Library of Congress).