Richmond 9 April 1807.

Sir,

I beg leave to trouble you with these lines, hoping you will lay such favorable constructions as the nature of my distressed situation shall appear & at present require.

You must know Sir, that since the death of my dear old Master (Judge Wythe) I have, already labored under many tedious difficulties, and what is more unfortunate my eyesight has almost failed me, I believe it is owing to the dreadful complaint the whole family was afflicted with at the decease of my poor Master—supposed to be the effect of poison.—It is true I have a tolerable & comfortable house to live in, but being almost intirely deprived of my eyesight, together with old age and infirmness of health I find it extremely difficult in procuring merely the daily necessaries of life—and without some assistance I am fearful I shall sink under the burden. This being my situation I am compelled to resort to this crisis from the old and intimate acquaintance, and Knowing your benevolence do now appeal to you for some charitable aid, which I have no doubt your generous hands will not refuse when considering my embarrassed circumstances—and be well assured that nothing but this, and this alone sires me with fortitude to make my supplications Known to you. If this should meet your approbation—and such charity as you shall think proper to bestow to me, you will please inclose in a letter directed to me by the Mail to [me] at this City—and the favor will ever be remembered by Your Obt. & humble Servant

Lydia Broadnax

# From Thomas Jefferson to George Jefferson, 18 April 1807

Monticello Apr. 18. 07.

Dear Sir

I arrived here on the 11th. and found here your two favors of Mar. 24. & 31. & have since recieved that of the 14th. inst. I am satisfied with the sale of my tobo. & will thank you in your first letter for information of the weight as Griffin has failed to communicate it to me; as also whether he informed you of his proportion of it, and gave any directions about that. the thousand Dollars, first paiment, are to be paid to mr Tazewell according to former advice. I have recieved a letter from Lydia Broadnax, the freed woman of my deceased friend mr Wythe, stating that she is in considerable embarrasment for the daily necessaries of life, & asking some charity. I cannot from hence make any remittance, but will thank you to inform her that you are authorised to pay her 50. D. out of the monies you are to recieve for me. I must trouble you to send me by the stage which leaves Richmd. first after your reciept of this 4. gross of corks, as the cyder you are sending from mr Cocke cannot be bottled till I recieve them, and the season is nearly over for bottling—a keg of cranberries by the first boats would be very acceptable. I wonder much that my groceries &c which left Alexandria Mar. 27. had not arrived at Richmond at the date of your last. we are much in want of them. I salute you with cordial affection

Th: Jefferson