

Transcription of Lafayette Documents

Paris April 3, 1782

I am happy my dear Middleton to hear that you have for me one of the hands and will be glad to render you any service in my power. I have wrote to Mr. Williams in Havre and requested him to let you have on my account 25 guineas in Case you want more I request you will apply to me. Should you be in need of any Assistance from the French Ministry Either to obtain passage or upon any other account – I beg you will write to me and be certain I shall Ever be glad to convince you how sincerely.

I am your obt ser^t (obedient servant)
La Fayette

Captⁿ W^m Middleton

Nantes May 9th 1782

Sir,

I have the pleasure to Inform you that I have received your very obliging and most acceptable favour of the 3rd of April for which I return you my most sincere thanks and most Ernestly hope that it may be in my power to acknowledge by my actions in future how honestly I wish to make you restitution for the kindness I have received at your hands. Your Honor was kinde enough to offer me your Assistance in respect of a passage to america for which I likewise return you my thanks, as there is a ship here bound for Philadelphia and have a passage offered me, I believe I shall return In her. If you have any Commands for America I shall be exceeding happy to be Honoured with the care of them as it is my earnest desire to oblige you and to be of service to my Country.

I am S^t y^r obd^t Hble Ser^t (still your obedient
honorable servant)
W^m Middleton

P.S. the ship's name is "*Non Such*" Captⁿ Charles Wells

fs = ss

schooner – sailing ship

barge – a boat with a flat bottom for carrying people from shallow waters to a ship in deeper waters

restitution - repayment

oblige – provide a favor

render service – give help

passage – journey by ship