I am happy to perceive that altho' you are not making a fortune so rapidly as you might in your younger days have calculated on, yet you and your family are contented & happy. The wise man has said that "a contented mind is a continual feast," and those you find it so. I continue to jog on pretty much at the same old rate, I cannot after paying expenses realize much, but I feel thankful that "I am what I am;" some have done much better, many much worse,

I have no late news from Ireland. I wish I could see all your family once more. Mine has increased a little since I had last the pleasure of seeing you, we have now four children living, two Boys & two Girls. & thank Providence we are all in pretty tolerable health. Mr Thompson & family are well and I shall remember you to him. I would not have written so soon had I not been anxious to reply to yr. letter by today's mail

And I have no doubt I have been taken from this sheet twenty times since I commenced it, you will therefore please excuse the style & twenty. Please remember me to yr. family. & believe me to be D. Sir

Yr. sincere friend

Jas. B. Montgomery

We have accounts of the Death of Ex John Adams & the Hon. Thos. Jefferson. & it is a singular coincidence their both have expired on the same day 4 July, just 50 years after signing the Declaration of the Independence of the beloved Country of our adoption.

Do please write me again & I shall take more leisure to reply. Yrs. J.B.M.

the misfortune to be a Catholic, and I believe without fortune, this of course was a most heinous crime, and to cover his sins he went to America, where he got his present situation, being a remarkable good Scholar and intended for the Church, his Father obtained for him letters of introduction to Mr Robert Oliver and Mr Saw of the House of Saw & Harrison, and others, which may be of use to him, when you visit Baltimore, I would feel obliged by your calling on him, and by way of introduction, mention that you had a letter from me requesting you would do so, you will find him a nice young Man, and well pleased with his manners,

I am yet without a line from poor Richard, yet very anxious to know how he is doing, I am certainly very sorry he has changed his name, however, it might be as well perhaps to let it remain as it is, for when the discovery should be made, those who know him under his new name, might suppose his crime much greater than what it really is, and perhaps set on foot some inquiry that might be injurious to him at some future period, when you write to him, be pleased to say his Son John is in the same business and place where he left him, doing, no doubt as well as he can, his Son Richard is at sea and now on a voyage to Quebec, his Daughter Eliza is at Naples with the same family she first went to, this, I believe is all that will be necessary to communicate to Richard at present.

Regarding my Son Johns crossing the Atlantic, is quite out of the question, I have no one now to look after our business but him, as the partnership heretofore subsisting between my Brother Williams son and I, was dissolved on the first of January last, terminating badly for me, besides my own health has been so bad for the last fifteen months, that I am seldom able to attend to business, should I be again attacked as severely in the coming winter, my constitution must bend to it, — Business of every description never was worse in these unfortunate Countries, failures from Bankers down to Pedlers have been numerous throughout the United kingdom, here our banks have all been starch, but their limited discounts have done great injury, particularly in the Cotton trade, you can purchase gray Cambrics for 2 p yard, and Linens fully 40 p Cent lower within the last year, in fact all kind of home and foreign produce has suffered nearly in the same proportion, notwithstanding the unusual dry weather we have had for the last six weeks, the growing crops look healthy, with the exception of flax, which is a complete mis. flesh [illegible] is very high, Beef 5d to 8 Mutton same, [illegible] 6 to 7. Pork during the season declined dreadfully, and several of our curers have been ruined, fresh butter about 8d, fresh 9 to 10 p lb, Oatmeal 11 to 12 p Cwt. first flour 27/, Potatoes 4 to 5 p Stone, My family are tolerable well, my eldest daughter is comfortably married and has two fine Sons, my second will be shortly married to a medical Man, which I have every hope and expectation of doing well — Saw & Harrison do no business in Belfast, Messrs Adairs of Baltimore appears to have the trade to themselves in this place, Berwick & Ash are their Agents, who have lately been unfortunate, but I understand from Thos. Adair that the House in Baltimore will not suffer any Loss by the failure — Jack Junkin has just been with me, he desires me to say he is in good health at present, and wants nothing just now, he has his little place in Patrick St. where he supports himself by selling Potatoes, Buttermilk and turf, he still possesses the same independent spirit he ever did, and looks extremely well, with kind regards to all your family

Yours Sincerely
John Shehee