a corps of Dragoons were reasons why I declined the acceptance of it -- I assured the Genl. that at any time received I should esteem it an honor to be attached to his family - My determination I flatter myself not with his approbation as I hope it will with yours —

The inactive state of our Army for some time past offers no military occurrence worthy of observation.

We wish for an opportunity of adding new lustre to a character already brilliant by repeated victories when opposed to an army of Veterans in strength vastly superior - the late conduct of Genl. Lee clearly demonstrates his determination against risqueing a general action - specable to recent intelligence, tho not authentic, he acts consistent with his orders —

An opinion is prevalent that a evacuation of the City will soon take place - founded on a concurrence of circumstances which strongly indicate it - desertion from their Army prevails to a great degree

The present campaign tho not so active as the last we have a prospect of being ultimately advantageous -

should the enemy leave us in the full possession of the southern States it will be the completion of our most sanguine wishes; fully compensate for our suffering in this climate, and lastly above all be a considerable advance to the accomplishment of the great end — even then it will be a length of time before this State can arrive to the enjoyment — of peace — the disaffected are numerous and the legislature unalterably fixed in their exertion. I cannot think it political - it may tend to the depopulating of the Country and deprive it of valuable members of Society - who might be reclaimed by a well conducted Government - and be made infinitely useful — we should make great allowances for those unhappy people, among whom fear and delusion have usurped the place of friendship - there are men not long since in affluence now under banishment their estates confiscated and their Wives and children experiencing the bitterness of extreme adversity -

Pr. Cleaver to present me respectfully to Mrs. Griffs family - to Mrs. Stone and Mr. Lloyd.

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