but if he has reached Mentz with 20,000 men, amongst whom are his great Marshals, Ney, Macdonald &c: he is yet master of more than Louis XIV possessed in the proudest day of his glory (in that war which was terminated by the Peace of Ryswick) - & with France, la belle France at his back (to say nothing of the delightful country between her late boundary & the Rhine) he can give the allies fair employment for ten or twenty years to come. And so long as he keeps up the contest, our administration will in some shape or other (war or embargo) cooperate with him. You see that like honest Jack Falstaff, I am afraid that this devil Perry will get up again - & have the lion's share of battle.

I have not heard from our friends Mr & Mrs G. since their embarkation - should you receive any intelligence of them I need not say how deeply I shall be obliged to you for its prompt communication. Present me most respectfully & affectionately to Mrs Horsey. I can readily conceive how great a treasure you both find in Miss Mary Ellen - may you long enjoy that & every other blessing. When you see (or write to) Mrs Bayard say for me all that you know of respect & regard which I feel towards her. Remember me if you please to Goldsborough & his fair daughters & believe me with very sincere good wishes, Dear Sir,

Yours

John Randolph of Roanoke

Hon'ble O. Horsey

Senate U. S.

MdHS 1974 [1170-1235]