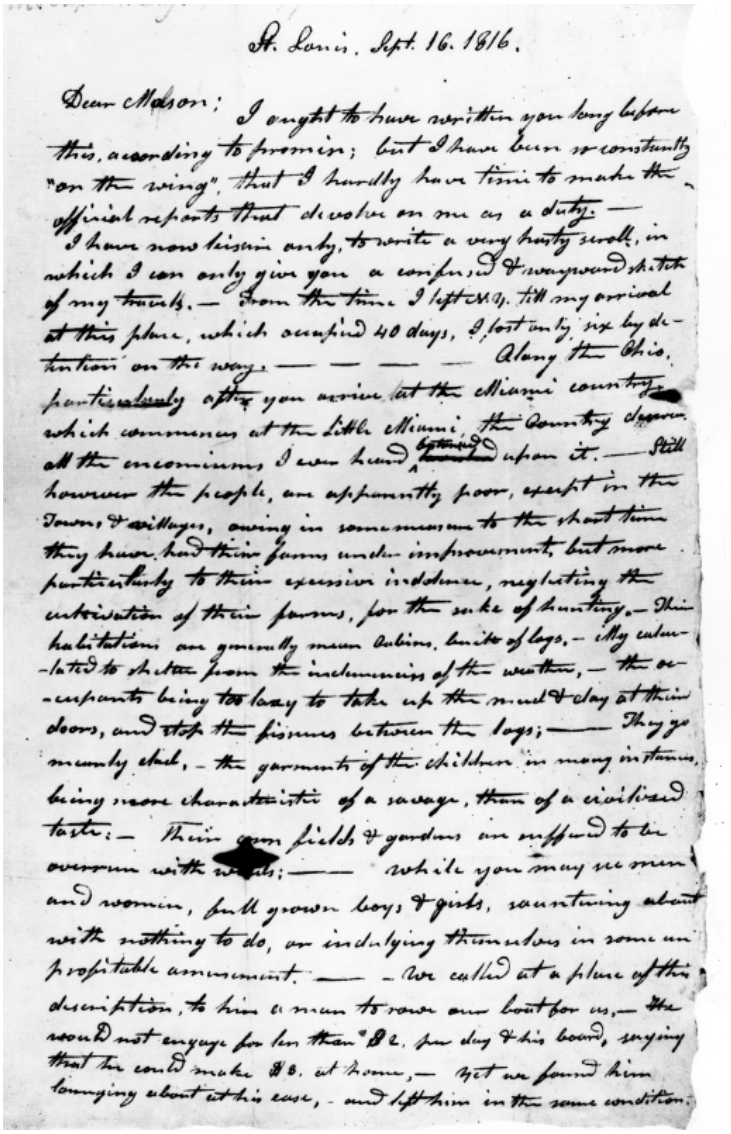
Letter to Captain Milo Mason



St. Louis. Sept. 16. 1816.

Dear Mason; I ought to have written you long before this, according to promise; but I have been so constantly "on the wing", that I hardly have time to make the official reports that devolve on me as a duty. —

I have now leisure only, to write a very hasty scroll, in which I can only give you a confused & wayward sketch of my travels. — From the time I left N.Y. till my arrival at this place, which occupied 40 days, I lost only six by detention on the way. — — — — Along the Ohio, particularly after you arrive at the Miami country which commences at the Little Miami the country disgusts all the encomiums I ever heard upon it. — Still however the people, are apparently poor, except in the Towns & villages, owing in some measure to the short time they have had their farms under improvement, but more particularly to their excessive indolence, neglecting the cultivation of their farms, for the sake of hunting. — Their habitations are generally mean cabins, built of logs. — Many calculated to shelter from the inclemencies of the weather, — the occupants being too lazy to take up the mud & clay at their doors, and stop the fissures between the logs; — They go meanly clad, — the garments of the children in many instances being more characteristic of a savage, than of a civilized taste; — Their corn fields & gardens are suffered to be overrun with weeds; — while you may see men and women, full grown boys & girls, saunttering about with nothing to do, or indulging themselves in some unprofitable amusement. — — We called at a place of this description, to hire a man to rower our boat for us, — the would not engage for less than $2. per day & his board, saying that he could make $8. at home, — yet we found him lounging about at his ease, — and left him in the same condition.

Description

This is a letter written by Stephen Long to Captain Milo Mason on September 16, 1816.

Date(s)
September 18, 1958

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8x10 inches (21x26 cm) Black & White

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