

My esteemed Leader and señor:

It is impossible that I not remain mindful of the trust which Your Lordship has placed in me to accommodate Lt. Col. d[o]n Atanas[i]o de Meszieres [MS: 1 word blotted out], affording him the greatest civilities and courtesies possible. I therefore inform Your Lordship that in fulfillment of that trust I sought lodging for him and his family as soon as I learned of his coming. In a place as wretched as this one, this [finding lodging] is to overcome one of the greatest difficulties. Likewise, [MS: 2 words blotted out] I have presented him with some sheep from a small herd that [MS: 1 word blotted out] I keep for those times when no sheep to buy can be found--as usually is the case. In the church I have had a chair placed beside my own, on the same rug that it is my privilege to use; and he has received the sprinkling and afterward the ceremony of the mass. These distinctions will affirm to Your Lordship the particular manner in which I have received him.

Since he has been quite ill from a case of diarrhea and gonorrhea that is distressing him, I have given him the choicest medicaments from my medicine chest. With them his condition has improved. The remainder of my accommodation [of him] I leave to Your Lordship's con-

sideration: you doubtless know of my good breeding. To ~~fully~~ show him the greatest urbanity, there remains <sup>lv</sup> // only that I grant him my table daily. But this is impossible for me to do, because some days I like to dine modestly. I am in a situation such that when I was an alf[e]r[e]s I was-able carried out this obligation of courtesy better than now. ~~This~~ All this I did not want to fail to inform Your Lordship of, in order that you might be aware of the way I conduct myself with this cavallero.

What I have felt most deeply is the event unfortunate event that has befallen with regard to the buffalo, of which [event] I informed Your Lordship ~~in~~ the-mail in my official letter number 130; for it [the event] has frustrated for the moment my great desire that Your Lordship have the pleasure of seeing the fulfillment of this encargo, of which the buffalo would be the proof. But in view of incessant efforts being made, I remain confident that fulfillment of your encargo can be achieved. And, reiterating to Your Lordship my most humble respects, I continually pray that Our Lord will protect Your Lordship's illustrious life the many years that I desire for you. Béjar, October 20, 1779.

Your Lordship's most devoted  
and true servant kisses  
your hand.

Lord Commandant General }  
Cav[aller]o de Croix }

Dom[ing]o Cabello

[A.L.S., 1-lv pp., 10/20/1779]