

COPY

(Heading apparently added with
a different pen:)

Copy to Baron Van Sach
Sept. 28, 1812.

Sir,

In compliance with your request I have read with pleasure
all the medical parts of your letters from ^{Surinam!} Swinam, and believe
them to strictly correct. ~~The-influence~~ I have no doubt of the
yellow fever being at all times the offspring of domestic filth and
putrefaction in our country, and that it ~~can-neither-be~~ imported
from the West Indies, into any port of the United States. I be-
lieve with you that the influenza is likewise an atmospherical
disease, and is not propagated by contagion. My reasons for this ^{opinion} [^]
are, ^{having} its existed in ships at sea, at the time of its prevailing upon
the land,--also among Indians and in companies of surveyors who have ^{had}
no intercourse with persons affected with it, and ^{from more} its rapid prevalence
when [^] [^] as-an Epidemic over extensive countries, than is common with conta-
gious diseases.

~~Your~~ The means you have recommended for preventing the fevers
of ~~Swinam~~ are rational, and such as have been found successful in
other warm climates, and in some instances in the United States.

From Sir yours very respectfully

Benjⁿ Rush

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