New Market, Shenandoah County, Virginia July 5th 1817

Respected Friend Thomas Jefferson

By Mr. Thomas Taney I send you a glass tumbler full of honey which I obtained from my bees according to the plan laid down by Mr. Morgan of Princeton in New Jersey. Failing the method so pleasing a one I thought it my duty to publish the receipts I have had with it which I hope you will find in the gazette printed at Winchester accompanying this glass out of that publication you will find here I have mungo the boards etc. Knowing you to be a Friend to all useful improvements and details I have (by the request of Mr. Taney) taken the liberty to send you a present as above in hopes you will communicate the improvement to your neighbours (if you think it worthy of communicating it). Should you have discovered a better plan than this or some additional improvements I would receive them with pleasure as some Gentlemen have requested me to have handmade hives which will give a full account of the management of bees which I could have done at my printing office.

I remain your humble servant

Solomon Henkel