Author's Note

The original spelling of Lewis and Clark and others in the expedition journals has been retained to give a better picture and understanding of the writers. Also, Jefferson's idiosyncratic grammar of not using capitals in the beginning of sentences and spelling the possessive "its" as "it's" has been kept in quotation from his original letters from archives. Lewis used the same construction of "it's," probably picked up when, as Jefferson's secretary, he copied many documents for him. However, I have left alone the published versions of Jefferson's and Lewis's letters. Donald Jackson's editing of the collected letters relating to the expedition is a principal case in point.

In the quotations, words inserted between lines are in roman type, in angle brackets, while struck-out words are in italics and angle brackets.