

~~W. M.~~

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West Point May 19th 1829

My Dear Father,

I am glad to see by your letter that you have reached home. In the papers I had seen this before and also, which gave me great satisfaction, that your old constituents had acted like themselves.

You caution me against remitting my efforts in my present pursuits, in my eagerness to enter upon the study of the Law. I hope and at present feel confidently that I shall preserve my rank in my class. The course of studies of this year ~~are~~ is by no means so difficult as that of the last or of the coming year. I now find time to attend to some studies which I believe will be useful to me when I commence the study of Law; I am reading Montesquieu's spirit of Laws. I take much interest in it. The subjects treated of are such as would present themselves continually to a man's mind in our country of laws or of free enquiry. The style of the work is very different from the general style of the French, for it is both concise and comprehensive.

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I shall be with you by the 1st of July. Remember me to our friends and Believe me Y^{rs} S. Clay

P.S.