

My Dear Son

Ashland 5th April 1845

I lament to have to inform you that we have been compelled to place John in the Hospital. He had been getting worse for some days past. The night before the last he was roaming about in the woods until two o'clock in the morning. Altho' he offered violence to no one, he was wild and boisterous in his language, and it was often incoherent. The painful conviction was at length forced upon me that it was necessary, and a duty on my part, to have him confined. It has greatly afflicted me. He threatened his own life, and declared to more than one that he intended to terminate it last night. His passion for Miss I. revived, and yesterday he attempted to see her, but she, being advised of his situation, properly declined to receive him. He went in a carriage quietly to the Hospital, without any resistance. I was afraid of the effect of this last stroke upon your poor mother; but she was satisfied of the propriety of the measure, and her resignation to the will of God enables her to bear what has happened better even than I do.

Mr. Milton handed me yesterday \$15 received upon your fellowship in the University. What shall I do with it? Are you not owing about that sum to Mr. Tibbatts?

Your children continue well; and, except Martin we are all well here. His situation is very critical.

Mr. H. Clay Junr.

Your affectionate father

H. Clay