

Washington 10th Mar. 1834

My dear daughter

I thought you had forgotten me, but your last letter is an assurance that I still hold a place in your friendly recollection. I was happy to hear from that, and from other sources, that both you and Henry have become much interested in the improvement of Maplewood. Anne tells me a good deal of the embellishments actually made or in progress. You know that it was always a favorite of mine; and it is gratifying to the pride of opinion to find that you think of it as I have always done. It wants only water more conveniently situated to render it among the most desirable of residences. I am glad to hear that you expect soon your excellent mother with you. Besides the satisfaction you can not but feel to her company, her matured judgment will assist yours in many of the interesting concerns of your establishment. I wish we also could be with you, not for the sake of any instruction we could impart, but for the more selfish object of the happiness which we should derive, my dear daughter, from the company of yourself, your husband and your little boy.

When we shall be able to quit this City God only knows. No one can yet see even a distant termination of the Span.

James has become discontented with his mercantile pursuits and I have consented, most reluctantly, to his return to us. We are for him daily. He now wishes to complete his education; and if he will really take upon it with ardor and zeal, I shall feel less regret in the change of his vocation.

Tell Henry that I have directed Martin to supply him and Anne each with a bushel of the Florida potatoes lately arrived at Holland. They were a present to me from a friend in New Jersey. Tell him also to look at another Shaw cutter, which has recently reached home. I thought well of it; and there is an additional what he can have if he likes it.

Mr. Clay's health, though yet feeble, is I think a little better