

New Orleans December 16th 1831

Dear Father

Though I wrote the last letter, yet as you perhaps feel some anxiety concerning me, I think it proper again to address you, at the risk of depriving you of time which may be invaluable. Nothing new has occurred in regard to my situation. I am still in a hotel studying Law under the direction of Judge Porter who has been so kind as to recommend and lend me the Institutes of Justinian as translated by Cooper the Mullifier. I shall probably go to Mr Durand's next week his house is not yet finished.

Anne & Mr Erwin & the Children are all well. I am greatly disappointed in Mr Eustis, and have declined studying with him. I am somewhat disappointed too with my prospects at the Bar. I had formed I fear, an erroneous conception of the New Orleans Bar. I had supposed that an active lawyer might make a fortune in the period of ten years and then retire to a free state. But I find that the fees of La' lawyers have been greatly overrated, that if the income be greater, the expenditures are also greater than elsewhere, and in fine that the Bar in New Orleans is like the Bar every where.