

Ashland May 2^d 1832

Dear Father

In my last I informed you of the new accession to our family. Anne and her little daughter are both in fine health, and daily gaining strength.

You wished me in your last to get you estimates of painting and stuccoing the house at Ashland. Mr Sheddelford informs me that he will do the stuccoing for 50 cents a square yard, which is the price that will be paid at the Bank. He of course will furnish the materials; perhaps, however, as we are out of town, we shall have to pay something for scaffolding: In town he furnishes that also. By a few estimates which I have made, there are not 650 square yards of surface, exclusive of windows and doors, in the wings and principal building of this house. I think then we may place the maximum cost at 350 dollars. ~~It~~ Stuccoing ought to last for a great many years. A less expensive improvement would be to paint the house some light colour; but it would not be so durable. The painting I suppose might be done for \$100.00. If you should determine to have it painted, how would you like a pearl colour, which would be nearly that of free-stone, but a little lighter? or a white tinged with the hue of straw? A still less expensive and less durable mode would be to wash the house some light colour, like the sides of Aunt Kelly's house. I must confess that I think stuccoing, if it be well done, nearly as cheap in the aggregate as any other mode, and much more satisfactory.

Mr Grant has money due you to the amount of upwards of a hundred dollars, which he is ready to pay, and upon which he therefore