

Baltimore 16 Feb 1819

Dear Mother

You must not grumble at my not answering your last letter sooner. I might as well be in Babylon as here, placed in the room which the old major occupied formerly, with four noisy fools, who are continually making an uproar which would worry the devil out of his wits, the nice gentlemen are Charles Seaman, John Lane, ~~James~~ Dr. Preston who is negrot s... I suppose you remember to have heard of him, an immense large steady fellow, his eyes are inches and large in proportion, the crowd is rather in the way in proportion to his bulk, taking every thing into consideration however, he is a good natured good sort of a fellow - James Randolph is likewise here, still the same de horra, I believe he feels a great affection for you. If you will make great compliments of this letter as I have nothing to say on the subject nearest your heart, except that I saw your beloved about a fortnight ago, she was very well then and likewise all the family, even Randolph always desires to be remembered to you, but always feel ashamed to remember her to you, don't make such a fuss, for undoubtedly your picka has well change before you are many months older, by you will have to reproach yourself with inconsistency, I will also throw out one of the letters in another again, that our was penner as nothing would please me more than to see you united to so amiable a girl, than in state in so delightful a house.

John another told me that she had given you a long and full account of the encounter between J. Randolph and Mr. Bankhead and how it ended. I suppose you will be glad to hear that J. R. is recovering every part, he was so well the other day as to have ~~gone~~ to mount the horse back, you won't be sorry to hear that Mr. B. has cleared out, his wife accompanied him, it seems to me a strange situation, ~~that~~ she can bear to live in the same house with one who must be the refuse of the earth, were his drunkenness the only vice he posse possid it would appear to me enough to disgust any woman of delicacy especially one who has been brought up as Mr. B. has been in the most refined circle. You know what a beast a drunken man is, he is in deed a nauseous animal (The description of the devil) how any woman can get into the bed with a drunken man is beyond my comprehension. Miss D. was learning the borrowed hair when I saw those locks, and you will hear it in all perspective when you return. The tune is the same as that of the little french song, L'Amour me dit a chaque instant, pour en dire sans amant. They desire me to thank you, which I have already done, I believe you are a favourite with <sup>them</sup> cultivate the Colonel's friendship, write to him moderately <sup>often</sup> take some pains <sup>with</sup> the composition of your epistles.

I feel anxious about the remittance which is due to me from home, if I am not mistaken the law which I received was during last september, & 5 months have almost elapsed since any more has come to hand. I am afraid father is somewhat reticent to procure money, I hope he will his cotton before it fall, as I understand that it is necessary low. I am also anxious about the fate of your, Venus I read in the papers that the mail was robbed, write to me immediately and relieve my doubts, your debt at ~~least~~ distresses me very much, I hope to see you this place until it is paid.

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I suppose you have heard of the death of Gen<sup>l</sup> Mason, it is the first rencontre of that sort that I ever heard of, and to be sure  
it was a very bloody one. It is a pity that Mr. Cartwright did not fall instead as he bears but a poor character. Every body says  
that he has thrown away his life.

I am reading Xenophon and Horace by me very much pleased with both of them. Grandmother  
is very well she is at Mr. Disson's. I believe that the cause is of importance you send me some letters written  
by one of them you might have been sure that he would say every thing in favour of his own side, but  
however the general opinion is likewise on the side of the cause, and therefore their cause must be just  
I am glad that you have formed an acquaintance with Fairfax he is no doubt a very deserving  
young man. I hope that you will triumph, & that F. will return to West Point, consistently with his  
honour. Grandmother read the letters aloud to me, Mr. Disson. I hope that you enjoy good health and  
are industrious in order to obtain the first honour at the next examination. I was very happy to hear that  
you were at any rate one of the first, but I would be much more delighted to hear that you were  
the first without any equal. All your friends that I meet enquire after you, go on & prosper  
be assured that your success will always be the fervent wish of your affectionate brother

W. Pitt