I thank you most sincerely my dearest Mother for writing so regularly as you do, and I hope that you will continue to do it, and whenever you are too much engaged prevail upon one of the girls to write if it is only one line to let me know you are all well.

Washington is much gayer now than it was when I first arrived, I have been to several evening parties lately and began to feel myself quite at home. Mrs Madison is as kind as it is possible for any one to be, and I have a most sincere affection for her. The Dallases continue to pay great attention to me. Matilda is a lovely girl, just such a one as you would like, so as I left it appears she is uniformly gay. There is quite a circle of Philadelphians here, and I am better acquainted with and like them better than any part of the Washington society. There are several young men from that city amongst them a son of Dr Logan's, who appears to be very good although not brilliant; Mr Norris, Mr Milligan, this last is generally considered one of the first young men in Philadelphia for talents, manner, personal attractions, and fortune, I do not think him uncommonly handsome, and his manners are not such as I admire; they are cold and formal. He sat by me for nearly an hour the other evening; of course I had a long conversation with him, his ideas were rational and his language correct, but I never saw a consciousness so fixed and unmovable. He appeared to take no interest in what he was saying himself, or what I was saying.
to him, and to talk merely because silence would have been awkward. The only people in whose society he seems to take any pleasure are the Dallas. I am not surprised at his preferring them, for there is certainly one of the most agreeable houses to visit at in Washington. I have dined and spent several evenings with them, the Mrs. Bayards are both fine girls, Eliza I am not familiar with, to me that it would be nearly unpardonable if I did not like her.

I have been to the house of representing several times; but I find there visits sometimes productive of a great deal of amusement, and sometimes very annoying. I was most agreeably entertained last night by hearing Signor Buon play on the harp; his execution is masterly, and when he confined himself to pieces of music he gives almost universal satisfaction; but when he attempted songs, his voice is so bad as to destroy the effect of his harp.

Pederson has left Washington not to return for many months; but I have no dear friend in the world.
The house of representatives I told Mr. Madison a letter of introduction to Grandpapa from the Marquis de Trazet.

Mrs. Madison’s drawing rooms are always crowded and are for the most agreeable parties we have. At first I did not enjoy myself at all, but now, that I am no longer a stranger, but can walk about and speak to whom I please, I find them very pleasant. I do not think the city can boast of many fine vie houses; the collection is not very select but such as they are, there are a great many of them. The members of Congress are generally speaking “not worth a lady’s eye;” some of the most agreeable are married men. I am not well acquainted with any of them except Mr. Page, who is very intelligent, gay, handsome and a great lady’s man but so he is married to his wife, said to be jealous. I do not like to have much to say to him; for although he is the most agreeable man in Washington and I should enjoy his society very much, yet I never will if I can avoid it receive any attentions from him, which is the case now to his wife. The first winter the Page spent here no one knew he was married and all the young ladies were in love with him. He is uncommonly handsome, graceful and elegant, his wife plain in person and manner, he is passionately fond of company, he inclined to stay at home and take care of the children. He is evidently attached to her husband, and cannot help being proud of the admiration he excites, although it is generally said that he is made unhappy by it. I like him and never fail to pay him or many little attentions as I can without offense.

The first dinner party which Mr. Madison gave after my arrival consisted almost wholly of members of congress, and I remarked on of them whose countenance struck me as being uncommonly fine, it was open and intelligent, and had a decided love for books. He is not often met with, his whole
prow had an air of command and impressed at first sight with a feeling of respect. He was further characterized by a look of law just in front, More perfectly white among its dark companions. His name is Tourney, he is a representative from North Carolina, was some time in the United States army, not so intelligent as his countenance promises, or rather his intelligence is not of the keen expressed in his face; he is perfectly solid but not brilliant. Excellent to the nature of man admits, this is the character given of him by one of his old schoolmates; for I have formed no kind of acquaintance with him. I have met with him only once since, at the drawing room, where he seems to know nobody, although his appearance attracts attention. I have some curiosity to become acquainted with him, but so he is very reserved and keeps so much aloof I shall probably never fill another half page of paper.

The last night ball is to take place next week. Mrs. Madison goes to it and I of course accompany her. The box let me have a beautifully painted trimming which I shall attach to my pink cape. The dress will be very handsome and I shall get Matilda Dallas or Mrs. Cutch to dress my head. It is an act they both excelled in the last evening I spent at Mrs. Dallas’s. Matilda insisted upon performing the part of a friser upon my head; she succeeded wonderfully, and I was astonished at the commendations which the family pour upon the length, fullness, and as they said, the beauty of my hair. You know in my own family we are not thought handsome, although of late they have acknowledged it was improving. Mrs. Monroe & Mr. Hay called to see me and I returned their visit, but they have very little in common with this or any other family, the former I’ve been very
sick and am still confined to her room.

I can truly say that I have not had time to write you a short letter to-day, we were to have a large dinner party, and I have scrambled as always in a hurry and often interrupted. I write as you desire me, to write a letter later, I have been intending to do it all this time, but I really have not leisure to write a letter which I must take pains with, and my mind is not often in a state which would allow me to arrange and methodize, although I love Jane dearly yet I should not like to expose to her eyes such roughs as one is forced for you. I have not written to Aunt Jane for the same reason. I am sure I write to-night and to Corinna at Virginia or soon as I can. If they knew the countless nothing which occupy my time and attention, they would pardon me for not having answered their letter.

Vanderlyn the painter is at present in town, he has taken excellent likenesses of Mr. Madison, Mr. Cameron (Vindal), Mrs. Munroe, Mrs. Hay, and others. I could not help wishing that I could afford to have mine taken, to be a companion for the one you have of Jefferson. They would hang so charmingly together in your little sitting room.

Give a great deal of love to Grand PAPA and the whole family. If the charming East a thousand times for me, we are then the poor of your letters which I read with greater pleasure than those which speak of her, and I am delighted to know that she still remembers me.

Our dinner is at length fairly over, it is nearly half past ten o'clock and the gentlemen are some of them just gone. I am basting my feet and take this opportunity to add a few lines to this already too long letter. Mr. Sullivan the gentle
man who married Miss Winthrop, Mrs. Dearborne, niece of Mr. Dearborne, sat by me at dinner and entertained me very agreeably; he seems intelligent and amiable. Mr. Kinsey and Mr. Logan were also of the party; of the latter I can now judge. Having had a long conversation with him, he is not at all clever.

Mann Randolph was here a day or two ago to apply for his commission: he had obtained letters of recommendation from some other person besides Grandpapa, but Mr. Crowninshield said "Mr. Jefferson is sufficient" and promised him the first vacancy. Mr. Madison desires that you will tell Cousin Sam Carr that the Hon. spoken to Mr. Crowninshield, about a midshipman's commission for his son John, and is promised one. I will have the second vacancy as Mann is to have the first. The Secretary of the Navy seems to think they will not have to wait long. Mrs. M. of myself have had some conversation on the subject of the application with you are forced to make to her. I understand your situation perfectly, and I think you need not be uneasy on that point. He desires a great deal of love to you; Mrs. villa, Mrs. Todd, Mr. Smith, Mr. Branch, & several others, gentlemen and ladies, old acquaintances of yours, beg to be remembered whenever I write.

Adieu, my dearest Mother, tell me if my letters are too too long, I sometimes almost fear they are, but when I once begin I never know when to stop. I continue to write to you often and believe that the strongest feeling of my heart is affection for you.

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