

Monticello Aug. 26 1825

I received your letter dear sister while sitting at Maria Carr's sick bed, for her illness continuing & increasing the girls at Tufton became quite exhausted by setting up and watching, and sister Jane sent to beg that I would go & assist them; except the first night I have only set up a few hours every other night & latterly not so often, so I have found no inconvenience from it; but during the hot weather the required journing night & day without ceasing & the fatigue of this caused me a abundance of pain in the shoulder from which I have suffered much. Maria has been in her bed near five weeks; it was thought partly a nervous fever from fatigue from missing her sister; the Drs have constantly said she was getting better while she was as constantly declining in strength, at last she was taken with painful fits which I do not believe they knew what was the cause of, Dr Langlison said it was the quantity of bark that had been given her & then they said it was bile, but nothing they did prevented the steady decline, they say now however that she really is better, whether nature has triumphed over their doctoring or they have at last found the right thing to cure her I cannot say. Margaret & Patsy have been staying with us ever since Dr D. has undertaken to cure their throat which he seems to think more seriously affected than their friends have been aware of (Margaret at least); for her, he has prescribed blistering & red pepper gargle. poor little Mary has suffered much from the same cause & has had so long a continuance of sore throat as to make her friends very unhappy about ^{her}, but she is at last getting well, to my sick list I will only add grandpa who I think is better all, he rides out occasionally in the carriage which he has not been able to do

till lately.

Gen. La Fayette left us on Sunday last, having arrived the Thursday evening before. The professors & students gave him a dinner & the latter shewed such enthusiastic gratitude towards him ~~as~~ that he could not fail to be much affected & gratified. There was no tedious pomp & parade, no ~~ostentatious~~ shows to weary & exhaust the old man & make him wish his friends less kind or their manner of showing kindness less opposite, but one burst of true feeling from young & warm and enthusiastic hearts parting forever from the man to whom their country owed so much. The dinner was conducted very quietly except at one moment when they appeared to have reached their highest pitch of excitement but they soon returned to their quiet & orderly conduct, & again, when he got into his carriage they surrounded it & clung to it, shook hands with him over & over again & some almost forced their way onto it, but they were persuaded at last to let him depart. He spoke ~~of them~~ afterwards with much feeling, said they were fine young men, & at that age when the best feelings of the heart are most alive. Some one ~~there~~ gave him a rattlesnake which threw Mr Le Vaillant ^{as good} into raptures, as when he shot the poor little wood-pecker with his own hand & gun. The gen. is going to carry it to France and a bear also, a present likewise, & some dozens of Indian moccasons which they were carrying to the ladies of their family besides a ship load of other commodities which they liked better than the honour of going in the Brandywine (for they determined it would not do to take so much lumber into that vessel) & resolved to sacrifice a vessel which sails early in Sept.

Mama read that part of your letter to the gen. in which you desire her to get something in his hand writing for you, the tears came into his eyes as he expressed his thanks for your kind mentioning him and he said if you would permit it he would write to you from Washington, he has most probably written before this. He seemed to think it a probable thing that he should be obliged to return to this country again, for refuge, & said he did not think he should be sorry for an excuse to settle here with all his family. I do not know whether you saw the little marmis who accompanied him Mr Sion, we liked them much here, he is quite a different sort of person from ~~the~~ he appears having the manners of one of gen-

the blood I breeding, I suppose he has lived in fashionable society while the other I should judge to be country bred. Mr. Lion besides being easy & graceful in his manners has very agreeable conversation & although not perfectly acquainted with the English language converses fluently enough for he does not hesitate & bungle in his speech when the English word does not present itself to his mind, but substitutes the French at once. They say he is very clever & calculatedly amiable, ~~very well informed~~ on political subjects & now a republican though a few years ago a flaming aristocrat and advocate for the nobility. Mr. Le Basseur seems to be a good creature though not so highly bred as the other, Nicholas says he is clever also. He delighted us with his diffidence & yet evident desire to partake of the society of the ladies & be polite & attentive to them. We came into the tea room one day I found Virginie & myself sitting very sociably side by side & alone; on the sofa, & as she said, every body moved off to the other side of the room as they entered as if they were afraid of interrupting a courtship; when we came to ask her what soft things he had been saying to her, she put on an air of great simplicity & naivete & said "I hope you are no better this evening than you were this morning."

We have had two young men with us from Louisiana of the name of La Banks they are nephews of Mrs. William Brown, Nicholas's aunt & in law. They have for the last seven years ^{been} in France where they were sent for their education, but have returned to go to the University here where they are now established, they are the smallest men I ever saw, one of them has a stiff black hair is not any great deal taller than Septimia, they do not speak English well enough for us to have made much acquaintance with them.

Sat. 27. Miss Bain & her brother arrived here last night & intend leaving us tomorrow morning for which I am very sorry as I was obliged to go down to Tipton to set up with Maria Carr & shall see very little of her in consequence for this morning she went to the University before I got home. Maria is I think decidedly better.

John & Lucy have returned home with Elizabeth who stopping at Milbrook on her way was there when Mrs. Eggers received news of the death of her mother the (Mrs. E.) went to North Carolina immediately on hearing it & Elizabeth who was in her carriage was left in the lurch. I suppose however with aunt Jane's carriage & the gig they will make out a mode of convenience to Poplar Forest.

Victor Randolph & his wife Jane Cary says, are going to reside in a foreign land for many years & perhaps never to return, but what this foreign land is, Jane says not.

Adieu dearest sister give my love to my brother & believe ever in the warm affection of your sister C. J. Randolph

How many prisoners was it that Mr. Miralla told us Bolivar had ^{had} at one time ^{at one time} in solicitation for the rebels of the Spaniards?

Martha Woodward is here & sends her love to you.

Cornelius²⁶, August 1825

DST

person
man
feelin

Mr Joseph Codidge Junr.

Boston

Charlotteville doctors.
Gen. La Fayette at Charlotte.
at the University. Baltimore
of the Medics. N. Le Royer. Massachusetts.
N. Rio.

