

October 11th 1844

My Dearest Nicholas

Your letter found as in the most painful consternation, Mr Samson who has had frequent relapses, had another attack of fever last week, and on Monday morning was deprived of speech with every other appearance of immediate dissolution, he remained in this state for ten hours, when contrary to the Doctors opinion he began to recover and is to day much better, how long he will continue so God only knows, for notwithstanding these appearances I fear it will devolve on us to perform the last sad offices of friendship.

My darling Child you must promise me never to permit any necessity whatever to induce you to sleep in the same bed with a stranger, my Doctor than this assures me that Mr Samson was not sufficiently advanced to be communicated when you slept with him, otherwise I should be too wretched, I fear by your putting on flannel you are not in as good health as you wish me to believe, I cannot

of you to do every thing in your power to reestablish it, could
I be certain that it really was so, I should be relieved from
all anxiety respecting you (except that which distance must
even create for a beloved object) for I am sure you have sense
and good sense enough to improve all your present advantages and
make up for your hitherto desultory Education. New Orleans
has been the theatre of misery, the greater part of the unfortunate
strangers have fallen victims to the dreadful malarial fevers
there, particularly the French, as the Americans fled early in
the season, Walstoncraft was buried last week, Canalic has had
a slight attack, and Maria Chantique was so ill that her recovery
was considered next to a miracle, we appeared to divide our
house with Mr Livingston and family, but Mr L's engagements
did not then allow of his leaving the city, and the Physicians
think a change of air would be more dangerous at present
than a continuance there, Mrs L - is absent that she hopes
you would not forget your promise of writing to her
as she feels a tender interest in all that concerns you,
remember when you write, which I hope will be soon, that
your letter will be scanned by the eye of critics, you had
better write in French, I am delighted that you are pleased
with your relations, they are so estimable and agreeable

that I was sure you would be happy under their roof, give me a description of their family, and tell me what impression your Grandmother made on you, and how she looks, in short let me know every thing you think, or do, who you band with, what your books, paper, and washing cost you a quarter, every trifling concern you will be read with pleasure by your mother who thinks of you perpetually. your Father and myself approve of your reasons for not delivering the letters of introduction, he desires me to tell you that you shall receive the last of January \$350, and March \$250, which you must manage until the first of July, from that time you will receive your allowance quarterly. for your part then you will then have had \$900, and March \$600 you may always be certain of receiving the same your Father promised, and more if his revenue permits it. ~~It is so uncertain,~~ it is so uncertain, I advise you always to have a new ~~quantity~~ quantity when you receive an addition as you will in January, for to be without money so far from home would subject you to much inconvenience. Mr. Sumner has just received your letter and sent it me. To read, I am sorry to observe that all your advice on the subject of oratorical composition has not engaged you to pay a little more attention to yours, and regret that I cannot induce you to believe that your escape your talents in that way to a more severe scrutiny than you can by any oral discourse, I could quote the first authorities in favour of this opinion. you will oblige me extremely my dear son if you will make it a rule never to write to a stranger until you are master of a style without writing a copy a few days before that you may have an opportunity of correcting your letter particularly that fault of tautology ~~which~~ which you have to a sad degree, and never make any marks to refer to the opposite page, believe me we cannot be too particular in doing every thing in the most quiet manner and refinement in trifles. make our mind and character more than you are aware of, I shall be very much gratified by your writing to

Now make if you will adapt the plan I request, but do not mention
 my promise of doing so as I wish that to come from myself; Father frequently
 asks to go and see his brothers and when offered rather one says he will go.
 Have you received your Father and Grandmother's letter enclosing checks for
 \$500.

10th October 1817
 My mother.

Lapworth La
 19th October 3

\$92¹/₂
 37.

for

Nicholas P. Trist Esq^r

Williamsburg
 Charlottesville
 Virginia

when my child console us for your absence by doing and being every thing
 you ought, your affectionate
 Mother M. Trist