

which is at all times grateful  
Monticella Sept 15<sup>th</sup> 19

My Dear Nicholas

Your last letter to me was dated 6<sup>th</sup> of  
August, if your Brother had not got a letter from you  
since you returned from your expedition I should be much  
wretched, indeed I am not altogether easy about you  
at present, tho our society here is numerous and generally  
agreeable but notwithstanding my spirits are not very  
volatile, I force an appearance of cheerfulness without  
feeling it but I have no right to be happy when every  
body is otherwise either on account of their own calamities  
or of those nearly connected with them economy must  
be the order of the day and I fear that must do with  
the majority of the first orders, Mr Jefferson and the two  
your Ladies returned from Poplar Forest yesterday in  
time for dinner he dont boast of very good health  
being Rheumatick the Girls quite hearty Mrs Randolph  
has been unwell so much so as to be confined to her  
bed for three days but is much better The Colonel sett  
off yesterday morning for Richmond on business Mr J. H.  
seems in pretty good spirits notwithstanding he has 20,000  
in jeopardy they cajole him with the hope that Wilson  
will have money enough to pay off all the security ships  
but this family think otherwise They call'd at Warsaw yesterday  
destitute. The President had not even

Mr. Jefferson told me that Mr. Nicholas look'd miserable and so  
does his Lady Mrs. Randolph says that her Father will have to sell  
part of his estate to redeem his securities and property will  
not sell for half its value there never was such a time known  
before in America even during the Revolutionary war for  
the Banks have encouraged every species of extravagance  
by creating a fictitious wealth which Mr. Jefferson says  
that these who borrow'd so much on various interest in  
borrow'd money of the Banks to make a dash with the  
America that they can't not pay what they borrow'd  
and if the Banks are supposed to go into operation that  
our Country will never prosper it is altogether a ruin-  
ing system and will ultimately ruin the Country im-  
provement is derided almost, not more than 4 stones left in the  
place and the Farmers cannot the country whole but there <sup>money</sup>  
12 part have lost it all the times are had every where  
and from what your Mother writes to Brouse money is as  
difficult to be obtained as it is here I almost wish my self  
back to the wilds of Henry living here the more agreeable  
is attended with more expense I am as saving as I can  
be with <sup>out</sup> appearing mean, for tripling donations to the  
servants runs a race with a sum in the course  
of the year that is considerable to my source, if I live to  
see another year I hope to be stationary and not be exposed  
to so many mortifications Benches is adding a couple of the  
rooms to his House 12 feet by 16 with corner chimneys I shall  
be better satisfied than with my rice I must make up my mind



to be separated from your self and Brother and derive  
consolation from hearing of your good conduct and progress  
in science, I will give you the names of our present family  
in the first place Mrs David Randall and a prototype of her  
a young woman who sits in her chamber and seems to be  
known as a Lady Mrs Mackley has 2 Daughters and her  
Spanish assistant Mrs Gany and 3 daughters and her  
son with James every evening from Charlottesville  
with Ben and Lewis raising enough a young Lady a friend  
of Ellens from Richmond by the name of Bradick so that  
we musten strong I have it in contemplation to leave home  
in a few days for Mr Minors I have had an invitation to  
spend some time at Monroes Mr Higginbothams but as  
they are building I shall prefer going to Ridgeway because  
they are building I shall prefer going to Ridgeway because  
Monday and Baken always come up on Saturday and stay till  
Monday so that with the family ~~as~~ <sup>as</sup> me seldom sit  
down to table fewer than twenty beside those who eat  
at a side table - Brouse sold the last bill of three hundred dollars  
to La Chase but he has not heard the fate of it perhaps  
coming to the yellow fever being in Baltimore has procured  
a communication from the Southern States the usual route this  
is the same Bill that was submitted that was drawn on the House  
nothing in Phila I begin to feel anxious to hear from  
your Mother she mentions having written to me which letter  
has not come to hand Mr Lounsbury was just recovering  
from a violent attack of fever the heavy rains had laid  
the country under water and it was become very sickly  
the cotton that had opened all destroyed so that the prospect  
of getting rich is obscured in that Country it is incumbent on

all to be as frugal as possible. I am in so sure that it is hardly  
worth the trouble of cultivating. Let me know what is the  
amount of your pay I am to economize and by so doing  
insure your independence and happiness be careful of your  
clothes and remember the old proverb that wilful waste  
makes woful want. I don't recommend to you riggards by no

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Sept 13- 1819  
New York  
West Point  
Mr Nicholas P. Trist

but to be careful that you may never have the mortification  
to be denied - never a haughtiness on a ladder but be frugal  
and limit your expenses so that you may support your independence  
The family unite in wishing you health and happiness  
and if my prayers will succeed you will be blessed with  
with all that can make you happy. Adieu and believe  
me your ever affectionate Grand Mother E. Trist