December 4th 1819

My Dearest Nicholas

This morning I received a letter from your Grandmother dated the 22d of October wherein she mentions that you had not heard from me since your arrival my astonishment is indeed great at the miscarriage of my letters for at that time there was not any complaint of irregularity in the mails though within the last month there has been fine missing, I wrote to you the day after I received your letters which I think was the fifteenth of September, your father also wrote you both the 25th of the same month enclosing checks on the United States bank for $558, and your Grandmother sent the duplicates by the next post in a letter to you, the money was in Town fifteen days before we could procure the checks as the branch bank there doubted their right to draw on the Mother bank and finally concluded by demanding a premium we only regretted their hesitation as it was the cause of inconveniencing you. the time is so near for sending you another remittance that the money must go in the same manner which may again cause detention and disappointment, but to prevent all our bannassment here after your father desires that you will try and make arrangements to draw on him, when he goes to Orleans he will inform himself of the state of trade

between that place and charfath which would
be the most convenient town for you to sell
a hill; as early as possible in this month he will send you
$350 your brother will receive the same sum
but one hundred of his check is intended for
your Grandmother. the first of July you will
either receive another remittance or draw on
your father the latter plan would relieve us
from a weight of inquietude as we would be
then certain of your having money in time.
I directed a letter for you on the 10th of
October to Williamsburg, I am all impatience
to hear that you are established there and
that every thing answers your expectations
I have no doubt my dearest child but
you will do every thing that depends on you
for advancing your education and be assured
your father will do every thing in his
power to promote it, dear Nicholas
your Cousin has given a convincing proof
of his friendship in the advance he made
you which I trust one this is refunded
Mr Livingston saw a Gentleman who dined
in company with you at Mr Graham's in
washington he mentioned you both in the
most flattering manner, need I say how
grateful such praise is to your Mother who

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is so sensible to all that concerns you. I am sorry to tell you that Mr L— is now confined with a third relapse of fever, and that Governor Claiborne was buried the 24 of last month, your father (who is absent purchasing Cotton) desired me to enclose you a check for fifty dollars as a memento from him which you will divide with Browne on new years day. Julian continues to remember you and when displeased with me says he will [illegible] his brothers, your last letter [illegible] me was dated the 4th of September, surely my dear child I ought to hear from you more frequently. Adieu and believe that you are dear to us all.

Your affectionate
Mother McTonnell

(as I was in the act of directing my letter we were made happy by receiving four from yourself, and brother containing the pleasing news of the money having arrived safe though rather late, as you tell your father you want only 600 he will send five hundred instead of seven, one of which belongs to your grandmother and the residue for you and your brother to purchase horses and sadles, Mr Randolph will perhaps have the goodness to those them for you, and be careful

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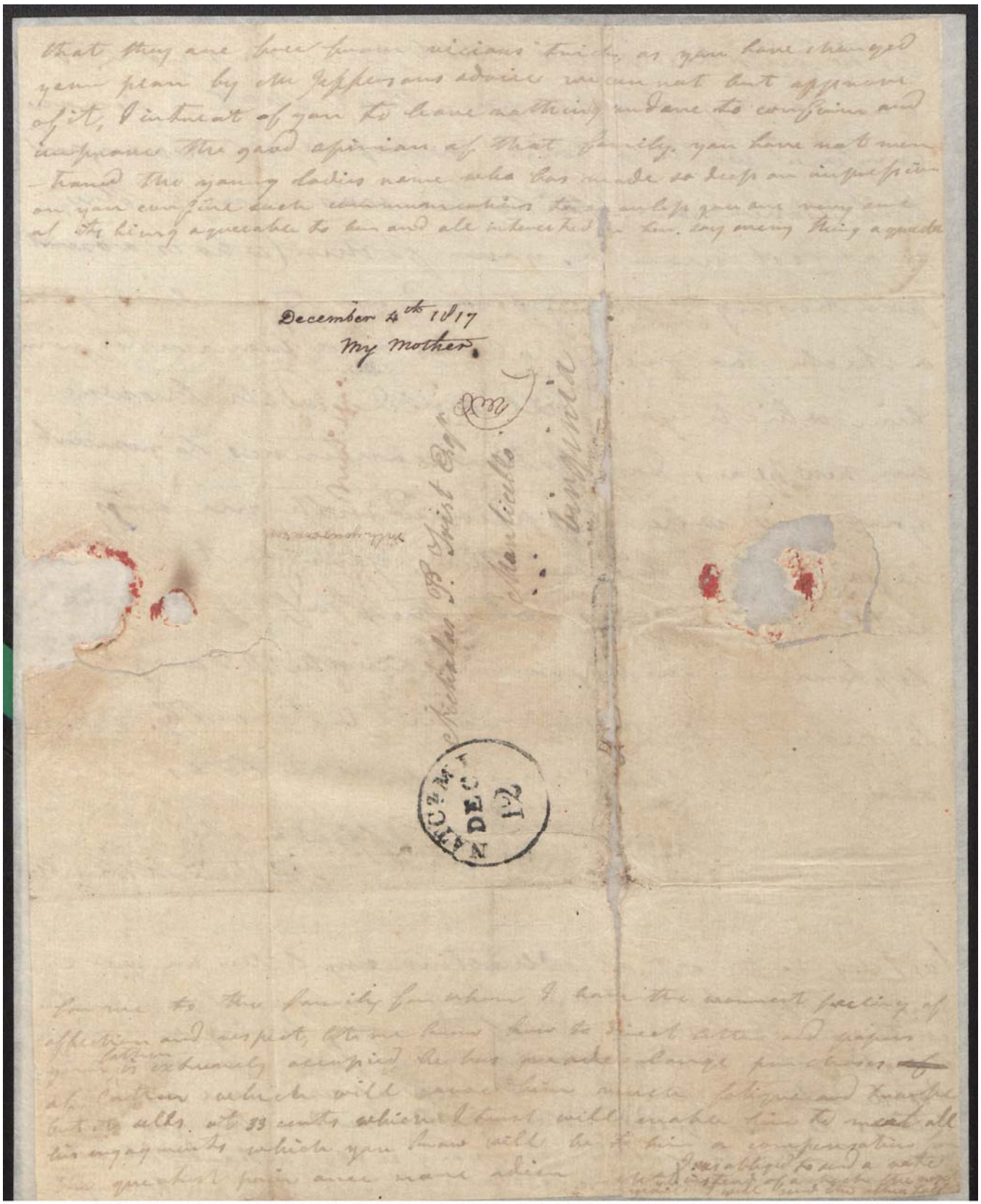

December 4th 1817
My mother.

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