

Washington Dec. 19th 1818

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My dear friend,

Soon after writing my last letter to you I received one from Samuel, which gave me much pleasure, as I had been more than four weeks from home, and until that time I had not heard one word from you, I had become extremely anxious, so much so that I almost feared to open it - but the information it contained was cheering, as it informed me that you as well as Mary and himself were well - I have since received another letter from Samuel dated at Peacham, in which he informs me that your health continued well and were willing to dispense of his services at home to give him an opportunity to pursue his studies - This I had not expected; but if you can, without subjecting yourself to too much fatigue and perplexity, spare him to pursue his studies, I shall certainly on his account be gratified - Samuel informed me that Mr Fairbank had not finished the flight before he left home, I had his promise to have it done by the first shipping, which I expect has been long before this, as the ground here has been covered with snow for a week past and the Potomac has been entirely froze over and to a considerable thickness for a considerable time past. I have had no letter from Doct^r Todd altho' I have heard from him by the means of Mr Pitkin, who hears from Farmington every week and learns that

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S. C. Crafts