

(16)

Washington Feb. 3^d 1822

Dear Samuel,

Your letter of the 17th ult. and one from your Mother of the same date did not arrive until last evening, by what means they were so largely retarded on the way I cannot conceive. However they were not the less acceptable on that account. It gives me sincere pleasure to learn by them that your health remains as good, and that of your Mother has improved since I left home. You mention the coldness of the winter - I had anticipated ~~an~~ ^{an} ~~unusually~~ ^{unusually} favorable account on that head. The weather generally, since I have been in this place, has been much more severely cold than any of the former winters I have spent here. It is true there have been some moderate days and some rain, but soon turned cold again - For some days past it has become more moderate, thawing and muddy in the day time, and freezing very hard at night. I am sorry the new stove is found to be too small sufficiently to warm the front room in very cold weather. This I think I can remedy by another winter by adding to the length of the pipe in the room; ten or twelve feet of additional pipe would probably keep the room sufficiently warm in the coldest weather.

I wish you would inform me how you make out for wood, grinding &c. and how the hay holds out &c. &c.

Samuel & Co. 1822
Feb. 3.