

Washington Feb. 2^d 1823

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Dear Samuel,

Your last letter dated 15th 16th & 17 of January, came to hand about the middle of the last week, and I thank you for being so particular. All the information I get from home is thro' your letters - I have occasionally received letters from people in the neighbouring towns, - they are mostly on business, but are silent on that subject, in which I feel the deepest interest - I yesterday got a letter from Judge Stanley dated the 20th in which he informs me of the death of Mrs Cutler - and that you and your Mama attended the funeral. I want very much to write to your Mama, and am prevented only from fearing that my letters would not be acceptable under her present impressions, which I have no doubt represent me and all my actions in an unpassable point of view; and writing to her might, under these circumstances, tend to irritate, rather than please. I need not tell you how much her unhappy situation grieves me - nor how much I am gratified by your attention to her. I trust that you will receive your reward.

I am very sorry to hear of the death of Lucinda Scott - it will be a severe loss to her parents and family. She must have been violently attacked with the fever, or it appears to me good council and attention would have prevented a catastrophe so much to be deplored.

You asked of me Capt Partridges opinion of the battle of Waterloo. Capt. P. in his letter upon that subject, went into a particular description of ground, of the situation of the two hostile armies, the manner of attack and defence. His opinion is that the Duke of Wellington is intitled to great credit for the coolness and courage with which he defended himself - but that the ground on which he fought was a dangerous one: for if he had been defeated, and he certainly would, if the Prussian army