

Washington Jan 2^d 1825

My dear friend,

I have just got your letter of the 29th and one from Wm Paddack of the 24th which are all I have received either from Crattsbury, or Blanford, since I parted with you - I should have written to you sooner but have been waiting in the daily expectation of receiving a letter from Mary, as she promised me she would write often, that I might be able to inform you of her health, and also how she succeeded with the family in our absence - And I had just commenced writing to you when the messenger delivered me your letter and the one from William - I assure you, my dear friend, that I am highly gratified to hear that you are so comfortable, and that your health is improving - and sincerely hope that no circumstances may occur to prevent its perfect reestablishment, and that soon - Why Mary has not written to neither you nor me I cannot conceive - as William in his letter informs me that she is in good health and spirits, and appears to get along with the family pleasantly and without embarrassment - He states that she has received the letter you wrote to her, as well as one of the two which I have written - I conceive you need be under no apprehensions on her account, as she is in the midst of friends, who would render every assistance she might stand in need of - I had a letter from James Paddack dated at St Johnsburg a few days after we left home, which stated that E Paddack was better and expected to be at home about the 10th of December - which is the latest news I have heard from him, Abba was still with him -

My health remains as good as usual, and hope it will continue so until we meet again - the weather here has been very pleasant