

Lancaster October 3<sup>rd</sup> 1816

I have written three times, to my Dear Mother, since I received a line from her. A letter from Mrs Smith, to Caroline, this morning, informed me, that you, and Aunt Nancy, had been passing some time, at the Valley. I was rejoiced to hear, my beloved Mother, that you were so well, as to be from home, but I do most sincerely wish, I could hear from you, more frequently; it is almost three months, since I have received a line from Britain.

I am in momentary expectation of Mr Clark's return; he writes me, that he should leave Washington, for Boston, last Thursday, and I think will be here (if no accident occurs) to day, or tomorrow. He writes dejectedly, as his visit to his Uncle, has proved unsuccessful: the old gentleman, was in such a state of imbecility, as to be incapable of attending to any thing: he conversed with Mr C, upon the prospect of his marriage and said, it was his intention to leave him half his Estate, when he died: Mr Clark told him, if he ever intended doing anything for him now was the time, when it would prove, of the most service. but this, had no effect: I have written, and endeavored to raise his spirits and encourage him, but he feels his situation, to be a cruel one. do write to me dear Mother, for indeed I require your advice, and counsel, and