Mons. A. D. W. Pickett

Monticello Sept. 25. 21.

I duly received your favor of the 10th. asking an opinion from me on the subject of female education. It is one to which nothing has happened to draw my attention particularly, & therefore I am really not qualified to give an opinion worthy of your acceptance or still less of being used for any public purpose. Approaching the entrance into my 60th year, reflect on tranquility & rest with me the sumum bonum of life; yet it is not the mere labor of the writing table, however irksome that is become to me, which would prevent my hazarding such an opinion as I might make up with some reflection, but that I can write nothing however indifferent, which, if it gets before the public, is not fixed upon by political enemies, as ground of obloquy, and with I fear no reproach, I seem usefulness in reviving malice, and reviving hostile feelings in those who, as to my self, ought long ago to have forgotten them. Trusting therefore to your indulgence I salute you with great respect.

Th. Jefferson

Dear Miss Jefferson,

Monticello.

Charlottesville.

[Handwritten text on the page]