

My Dear Father

Harve. de Grace April 29th
1825

I had intended to have postponed writing you until my arrival in Paris as you ~~will~~ no doubt expect some information as to my plans. & as yet I have been able to form none. The packet sails however Day after tomorrow & I may be for some time after my arrival in Paris as undecided as at present I will avail myself of the opportunity to communicate my progress so far.

I spent a few days in Washington on my way to New-York & waited on the President & Secretaries of War & State - I found Mr. Barbour very friendly - he invited me to his lodgings & I spent an evening with him - Mr. Clay appeared to be much absorbed in business but gave me a letter to Mr. Brown in which he spoke of me as the son of an "Old and particular friend" - Mr. Woot offered me also a letter to Mr. Brown but as I had one from Mr. Nicholas in addition to the one inclosed you by Mr. Barbour I declined from Woot. - In New York Mr. Hughes obtained me some

letters from Mr. Morton to some ladies of his acquaintance in Paris. & I have also some mercantile letters. With these I shall be able to make out pretty well.

Can purchased me a bill of your old Correspondents Forster & Giraud, who also gave me a letter of Credit. & Broome & Johnston gave me letters to their Correspondents in Leghorn & London.

In Washington I put up at a private boarding house ^{Mr. Puyfays} where I found myself accidentally the only fellow boarder of Mr. Langdon Cheves. I found him so acceptable that conversation grew in a few days into an acquaintance & when we parted he bade me a most friendly farewell. Should he at any time pass through Richmond I should be obliged to you if you could become introduced to him & thank him ~~in person~~ for his civilities to me.

I also became acquainted in Travelling to New York with Mr. Somerville our Charge d'Affaires to Sweden - He expected to leave America in a month for Stockholm - He introduced me to Mr. Labone Secretary to the French Ambassador then on his way home on business of the Legation through London.

I found Mr. Somerville an intelligent & one of the most accomplished men I have ever seen - We put up together at Newhams in Philadelphia & on parting He invited me to include Stockholm in my tour - I shall probably not accept his invitation, but he will pass through Paris on his way & I may find his acquaintance of service.

I shall spend two or three days in this place to examine the Docks & other improvements & shall afterwards go on to Paris, stopping a day in Rouen the old Capital of Normandy - I shall probably remain in Paris until I have acquired enough of the language to travel ~~conveniently~~ with facility & shall afterwards proceed to examine the Canals & highways of ~~France~~ the ^{probably} Kingdom - Should I get through in time I shall spend the winter in Italy - but this would of course be a secondary ~~consideration~~ object. I expect to meet with Jacquelin Cumber in Paris & may obtain some advice from him as to my arrangements - but shall ^{probably} not be able to decide finally as to my route ~~until~~ for six or eight weeks - Whenever I do I will write you fully & give you

my route in detail so that you may follow ^{on the map} the footstepping
of your vagrant boy - as Mama would call me. Present
my love to her & tell her I hope one day to become fixed, her prediction
to the contrary notwithstanding & that I may yet keep off the Parish
Present me to all my brothers & sisters, My Uncle & Aunt Robinson & their
family & particularly to my excellent brother Conway - I wrote

Mr. Robinson
 Havre
 April 29. 1825
 America

John Robinson Esq.
 Richmond
 Virginia
 North American



I hope by this time Uncle Anthony's health
is improved in your next please inform
me particularly - nothing else I left home
has been to me a source of so much anxiety
Have I any occasion to go farther that I am
apprehending for you -

to him from New York to ask him to ^{send to New York.} send me a file of Richmond
papers to be sent by Cary to Havre. I should be obliged to him
if he could keep a regular file of ~~them~~ such as he
could get conveniently & now & then inclose them to Cary
as I write for them. I wish in this manner to avoid losing a
knowledge of affairs at home whilst seeking for information abroad