Castle Hill, Oct. 29th, 1824.

Dear Garnett,

Your letter of 5th instant reached me, just as I was on the point of departure from home, upon an errand of business which admitted of no delay. I now avail myself of the first moment of leisure since my return, to reply to it. — The arrangement you propose, for our winter in Washington, carries with it every recommendation to me, it is no less attractive to Mrs. Rivers, who would be very happy in the opportunity it would afford her of forming an acquaintance with Mrs. Garnett. But unfortunately, my wife is so encumbered by a recent addition to her family, of a son, now only a week or two old, as to have induced her to abandon altogether the idea of accompanying me to Washington, during the ensuing winter. Washington, under the most favorable circumstances, affords but few pleasures for a lady; but with a charge demanding her constant attention, it would deny her even a peep at the "great Babylon," it would be scarcely tolerable. I regret exceedingly that things could not have been ordered otherwise, for I assure you, both of us are very sensible how much pleasure we shall lose by our inability to join you. — If any thing should occur to prevent Mrs. Garnett from going both of you to Washington, cannot we get together ourselves? I should be very glad to be with you, & as our fates harmonize very well, except
that you have a mortal aversion to Yankee Doodles, to neither of which objects have I any particular objection.) I have no doubt that any situation, which would be agreeable to you, would suit me. -- Any time you could have informed me, before the receipt of your letter, of the circumstances which prevented you from calling on me, as you returned from the upper country. It would have given me great pleasure to have seen you; especially as I should have been able to exhibit to you, in the distracting variety of my pursuits, a most satisfactory reason for not affording you the evidence, which you seem to have expected, of my good wishes towards your literary undertaking. I have been engaged in building during the whole summer, am not yet disengaged from it, & if you have ever had any experience of this absorbing & perplexing occupation, you will require no other reason for my omission to furnish an article for your review. It has grown into a proverb that a man cannot work & thrive in the same year. It is certainly equally difficult for a man to build a house, & write a book, or part of a book, the same year. Besides this avocation, I have been much engaged in my professional pursuits. You are mistaken in supposing that professional men gain leisure at home. My going to Congress, for although this business is not increased, yet neither is it diminished, where the usual country is extended to them by their duties, & the time for attending to it, is greatly untied. This state
of things can be met only by augmented diligence, and accordingly, I have found all the time I could command, closely occupied in paying off the arrears of work which had accumulated against me, in my absence. I have mentioned these circumstances to explain to you why I have not attempted to write something for your Review, for I certainly should have made the attempt if I had had the necessary leisure. But I ought, perhaps, to be more honest, I just my excuse at once, upon the best of all foundations — my conscious inability to supply any thing which would do either to the value or the estimation of your work. I have been so long out of the habit of composition that I execute even a short essay with great difficulty, the range of my mind has been so straitened by the work of professional investigation, that I am bewildered and utterly lost in the maze of general literature. I look forward, however, to a period of more leisure, if it should ever come. I should have the energy to improve it, I promise to submit to your disposal the first fruits of my literary labours. In the mean time, I hope I shall see your review, which I am persuaded, has already, by its service to some of the best intellectual resources of the state, & the ambition of appearing, at some future day in its pages will be a fresh & powerful incentive to the resumption of my studies. — I am very sincerely your friend L.S. C. W. McRae.
Sunday, June 29

The Honble Robert S. Garnett

Logg's

Prince County, Va.

1824

My dear sir,

I had the pleasure of receiving some
few days ago, under your hand, a No. of the Hartford
Times, containing the able communication of Mr. Keir
for which I pray you to accept my sincere thanks.
I read it with great gratification, and with admira-
tion of the talent of the writer with which the writer
most happily and firmly, entered the suicidal indolent
inebriety, consisting of which many of the adminis-
trative orders had united with the Whigs in their nat-
ural game of representing the late Tariff act
as a distribution measure. How is many means
infesting a mortal hostility to distribution? A live
anxiety to arrest schemes of that character. Shall
join their adversaries in pronouncing the princi-
ple to be already, established in the Tariff act,
seems to me to admit of no explanation on the ordinary prejudicial notions of human con-
duct. What less obvious notion may have actu-
ated their course, I have within the disposi-
tion to inquire nor the capacity to divine.
of its impiety and inconsistency, as one can doubt, after leading the able and luminous committee of the House. The unfounded charge by his first son, has deterred my desire to see that with which it is presumed to be followed up, & I trust to your kindness to afford me that gratification.

The political defeat of our friends in North Carolina may have excited some apprehensions with you as to the fate of Virginia. I am happy, however, to tell you that all is well here, & there is no reasonable doubt whatever of the vote of the "old dominion" being given by an decisive majority, to Mr. Sam Brown.

So much the favor to permit my last respects to Mrs. Mills, & believe me to be, my dear sir, very truly, I cordially yours,

Horatio

Mrs. Mills,

Senator N.S.
Castle Hill Oct. 28th 1837.

My dear sir,

I beg leave to recommend to you for the appointment of a 2nd Surgeon in the Navy Dr. J. M. Minor of this State. Dr. Minor, I have many reasons to believe, is a young man of great merit, both personally & professionally. I should be much gratified if it should be considered with your views of the interests of the service, to give him a warrant to appear before the Board of Examination which is to commence on the 1st Monday in December next.

I remain, my dear sir, with the highest respect,

Honble. W. E. Rivers

Secretary of the Navy.
Respectfully submitted,

J. M. Minor

Washington, D.C.

Nov. 29, 1837

To the Honorable Secretary of the Navy

[Seal]

Permit. Nov. 3. 1837

Respectfully,

Oct. 31, 1837

[Signature]
Castle-Hill Oct. 8th 1844.

My dear sir,

I should have written to you before now, but my constant indisposition, since I parted with you at Winchester, has rendered it so much uncertainly over my movements that I was not able to write to you with any degree of confidence as to the arrangement you were desirous of making for a rendezvous in Shenandoah. After fulfilling my engagement at Wheeling (where we had a glorious time of it), I found myself still so unwell as to make it prudent for me to return my steps as speedily as possible home; & I had hardly regained my own threshold, before I was prostrated by serious illness. I literally got out of a sick bed to take part in our District Convention, which assembled in this county last week; & since then I have been again in prison.
within walls. —
you will see, therefore,
that it has been quite impossible
for me to give you a estimate
in Shenandoah, to aid in extending the
Morning Whip Church which you planted
there with these three convents on your
way to Winchester. I trust you have
multiplied them ten or a hundred fold.

since, I think they will be gathered into one
universal fold on the 1st of November
next. I am thoroughly satisfied
that nothing is wanted to ensure
our carrying Virginia, but that we
should believe we will carry it.

This faith is beginning to spread
rapidly in this part of the state, and
I trust the signs around you are
well fitted to fortify it. If we have
the goods that are wanted in West-
ern Virginia, I consider our success
in this State absolutely certain. I
want a glorious consummation
would that be!
I received an day or two ago, while confined to my bed, a letter of invitation to the Whig mass meeting at Moonfield 18th of this month. It having been mislaid, I cannot now refer to it; I must beg the pardon of you, therefore, to make my excuse to the committee, which addressed it to me, & to assure them of the great pleasure it would give me to be with them, if it were possible. But the present state of my health forbids an immediate departure from my present position, & I must therefore devote myself to the great cause in which we are engaged, in lieu of my personal presence.

My wife joins me in my cordial salutations to you, & I remain very truly, faithfully yours,

Chs. C. Lee 859.
Benswaglit Oct 9

Frederick W. Lewis

Charles C. Lee Esq.

Moorfields

Hardy County

Va.
Alexandria 16 Nov. 1854.

My dear sir,

I avail myself of a moment of leisure, while attending at the funeral of one late a friend of mine, to request myself of a service due to a friend of Mr. Balturin, the very dear and esteemed Editor of the Richmond Enquirer. Mr. Balturin, whose fine talents as a writer and speaker you well know, has recently a series of lectures on very timely subjects (among which I may mention "The good old times" of the "good times to come"), which he has been invited to deliver in Virginia and elsewhere. They are, I am assured by a gentleman eminently capable of judging, so far they have been read, executed with a very suitable degree of clearness, and would repay the attention and encouragement of the most enlightened audience. It would be very grateful to Mr. Balturin to receive an invitation to lecture before the Maryland Institute, and in the full confidence that his lectures would be worthy of such high encouragement, I take the liberty of asking you to use my good offices with the members of that body to procure for him the honor of an invitation from them, if you can find nothing in the application unusual or insupportable.

I have the pleasure of writing...
to you on other subjects a few days ago from here, and remain, my dear sir, very faithfully yours.

Wm. M. Burwell Sr.
Baltimore.
Castle Hill 16 Dec. 1854.

My dear sir,

I have had the pleasure of receiving your letter of 10th instant, at the first moment I have been to obtain some leisure to acknowledge it, to say particularly how much gratification it would give us to have a Christmas visit from Mr. T. and yourself. I go to Albermarle on Wednesday to attend a meeting of the North-west Directors, but expect certainly to return here on Saturday. On that day, we were under a promise to go to my brother near Cheltenham, and remain there till Tuesday, when they were to come down to the residence for the Christmas holiday with us here.

But all the arrangement, on our part, is a matter of no importance, and we will be at home to receive you any day that it will best suit you, or Mr. T. and convenience to come. Mr. T. is an old college friend of my brother, also, I am sure, won't be delighted to see him, as well as yourself, at his house. It might be agreeable to him or yourself to meet us there, then a day or two in the gayer neighborhood of the University of Cheltenham, and then come down to spend the residue of the Christmas with us — I lay this whole programme before you, that Mr. T. and yourself may make the arrangement that will be most agreeable.

I remain convinced of your kindness, and whatever that may be...
it will be best that will please us most. As so good as to write to me after consulting Mr. Boccks, let me know when we may be able to see you, and we will, with the greatest pleasure, without the slightest inconvenience or sacrifice of any kind, conform our plans to yours.

You mention that you would like to have a review of R. A. de Cayeux's "Thirty Years", which you think ought not to go down to posterity without a contest against its many errors. I have not found time to read it, but if I have an accurate idea of the work, I do not think there is much instability in its going down to posterity at all. The field he embraces is a most important and interesting one, and well worth a careful and impartial historical review. I do not believe my self that I were capable of properly executing such a task, my numerous private engagements. I am going to say, are such business that I entirely occupy all my time, that it would be altogether out of my power to undertake it.

I am sorry to have forced you very soon, but at seven o'clock this evening, at any time that may best suit your convenience, I remain in great haste.

Mrs. R. Boccks Esq.

W. L. Russell 1854

very truly yours,

W. L. Russell.
My dear sir,

I have had the pleasure of receiving both of your late letters, so kindly renewing the hospitable assurance of your first. I hope to be with you on Tuesday. My wife would be too happy to make Mr. Hare all a visit at the same time. But my daughter and niece and Mr. Wright are now with us; and she cannot leave them, during their accustomed seclusion with us. — The articles which you were so good as to send I select for them have been safely received; I trust I will return their warmest thanks to you for the trouble you were so good as to take in their behalf.

With the joint affectionate greetings to Mrs. Hare and yourself, believe me,

most faithfully your friend,

Dr. A. W. Hare all.

W. B. 

[Signature]
Leath Hill 18 Oct 1864.

My dear Doctor,

I had the pleasure of receiving by the mail of yesterday your letter of 18th October. I am very much obliged to you for laying in, on such good terms, the quantity of coal for our winter use. I think it was very wise to add a ton to the quantity you originally suggested, which, I fear, would have been insufficient. I am glad that you included the weight I told on the fumes in the check. I sent you, as it saves the trouble of adjusting settlements to both of us. We will not fail to assure you, in good time, of the further articles we shall send you.

I received the few lines you had the kindness to write me regarding Mr. Kinney's wine. As this is an article which differs so much on actual taste & trial, I have continued to...
Forthwith my friends, until
I shall have the opportunity
of personally testing the article. If
Mr. Henry would send his wine
to Richmond, I should be very
much obliged to you to be very
taste, and if it suits please
your palate, be so good as to
secure a gallon for me. I
find a little being today occasionally,
I mean apple brandy, or cider,
agrees with me, quite as well, if
not better than wine. — I am
very happy to learn that you are
all well, I cheerful amid these
events, military & political, which
are transforming from day to
day. I am a disciple of MacArthur, I
cannot help noticing that some-
thing will turn all "for our
advantage." Hopping for
long to be with you, I with
our units. I affectionately 20
gards to the ladies 2 yourself. I remain very truly 2 faith
fully yours

W.C. Ruins

Dr. A. W. Harell

Richmond