

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, & 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, & which would deny her even a peep at the "great Babel", 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 with you to Washington, cannot we get together ourselves? I should be very glad to be with you, & as our tastes harmonize very well, (except

that you have a mortal aversion to Yankees & Canes,
to neither of which objects have I any particular objec-
-tion,) I have no doubt that any situation, which would
be agreeable to you, would suit me. — Augustine Mon-
-roe had 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; es-
-pecially as I should have been able to exhibit to you,
in the distracting variety of my pursuits, a most satisfac-
-tory 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 ab-
-sorbing & 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 "can-
-not wife & thrive", the same year. It is certainly e-
-qually 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 pro-
-fessional pursuits. You are mistaken in supposing
that professional men gain leisure at home. They
going to congress; for, altho' their business is not
increased, yet neither is it diminished, where the usual
country is extended to them by their brethren, & the
time, for attending to it, is greatly curtailed. This state

of things can be met only by ~~augmented~~ diligence,
& accordingly I have found all the time I could com-
-mand, 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, & put my excuse, at
once, upon the best of all foundations — my conscious
inability to supply any thing which would ~~add~~ ^{do} either
to the value or the reputation 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 ^{weakened} ~~strengthened~~ by
-row path of professional investigation, that I
be bewildered & utterly lost in the mazes 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 sub-
-mit to your disposal the first fruits of my li-
-terary labours. In the mean time, I hope I shall
see your review, which I am persuaded, has already
in its service some of the best intellectual resources
of the state; & the ambition of appearing, at some
future day, in its pages will be ^a fresh & power-
-ful incentive to the resumption of my studies. —
I am very sincerely your
friend & ob. serv. W. C. Rives.

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amin

Lindsay Stone / 191
Oct 29

The Honble Robert S. Garnett

Log's

Essex County Va.

Mr. E. Davis
Oct 1824

Castle Hill Ra. Sept. 19th '36.

My dear sir,

I had the pleasure of receiving, some few days ago, under your frank a no. of the Hartford Times, containing the able communication of "Nesher", for which I pray you to accept my sincere thanks. I read it with great gratification, & a just admiration of the talent & the temper with which the writer most happily & forcibly, exposed the suicidal impolicy & reckless inconsistency with which many of the administration Presses had united with the Whigs in their national game of representing the late Deposite act as a Distribution measure. How so many presses professing a mortal hostility to distribution, & a lively anxiety to arrest schemes of that character, should join their adversaries in pronouncing the principle to be already established in the Deposite act, seems to me to admit of no explanation on the ordinary prudential notions of human conduct. What less obvious motive may have actuated their course, I have neither the disposition to enquire nor the capacity to divine.

of its impolicy & inconsistency, no one
can doubt, after reading the able & lumi-
-nous communication of Necker. — The impression
made by his first no., has whetted my desire to
see that with which it is promised to be followed
up, & I trust to your kindness to afford
me that gratification. —

The partial defeat of our friends
in North Carolina may have excited some
apprehensions with you as to the vote of Virgi-
-nia. I am happy, however, to tell you
that all is well here, & there is no rea-
-sonable doubt whatever of the vote of the
"old dominion" being given, by a decided
majority, to Mr. Dan Riven. —

Do me the favour to present
my best respects to Mrs. Miles, & be-
-lieve me to be, my dear sir, very

truly & cordially yours

Humble

Mr. Miles,

McRiss

Senator U.S. —

we that great
in North Carolina
Apprehensions with
-man. I am
that all is over



Humble

Mr. Pills,

Senator U.S.
Hartford
State of Connecticut.



Wm. W. & B. B. B. B.
No. 19. 1856

Castle Hill Oct. 28th 1837.

My dear sir,

I beg leave to recommend to you for the appointment of a ^{Asst} Surgeon in the Navy Dr. J. M. Minor of this State. Dr. Minor, I have every reason to believe, is a young man of great merit, both personally & professionally, & I should be much gratified if it should be consistent with your views of the interests of the service, to give him a warrant to appear before the Board of Examination which is to convene on the 1st Monday in December next. —

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

Humble

most Obedt. serv.

M. Dickerson,

Secretary of the Navy. —

W. P. Rowis.

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Faint handwritten text, possibly a name or address, located in the middle right quadrant of the page.



Faint handwritten text, possibly a signature or date, located in the lower right quadrant of the page.

679
Ret. Surgeon
J. M. Mirre
Van W. Rivers

Am. 2^o Nov 1834

San Diego Nov 2^o
1834

To the Honble
M. Dickerson

Secretary of the Navy
Washington

I suppose his father
friend of the Navy
have the privilege of
examination granted
to him.

Permit. Nov 3, 1834

R301 Oct 31 1834

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, threw necessarily so much uncertainty over my movements that I was not able to write to you with any degree of confidence as to the arrangements 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 retrace 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 a prisoner

within walls. —

That it has been quite impossible for me to give you a redegroen in Shenandoah, to aid in extending the promising whig church which you planted there with your three converts on your way to Winchester. I trust you have multiplied them ten or a hundred fold since, & that they will be gathered into one universal fold on the 9th 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, & I trust the signs around you are well fitted to fortify it. — If we have the gains that are expected in West-
-ern Virginia, I consider our success in this state absolutely certain; & what a glorious consummation would that be! —

I received a day or two ago, while confined to my bed, a letter of invitation to the Whig Mass meeting at Moorfields on the 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 excuses 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 opposes an insurmountable obstacle, & I must offer them my warmest sympathies & devotion in the great cause in which we are engaged, in lieu of my personal presence. —

My wife joins me
in cordial salutations to you, &
I remain very truly &
faithfully yours
Chs. C. Lee Esq. W. H. Davis.

Bentworth's
Oct 9

Free
W. Rivers.

W. C. Rivers
1844

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 ^{a meeting} of the Directors of our
Rail-Road here, to acquit myself of a promise
made to a friend of Mr. Baldwin, the very clever
& spiritual Editor of the Richmond Dispatch.
Mr. Baldwin, whose fine talents as a writer &
speaker you well know, has just given a series
of Lectures on very taxing subjects, (among which
I may mention "the good old Times", & the "good Times
to come"), which he has been invited to deliver
in Virginia & elsewhere. They are, I am assured
by a gentleman, eminently capable of judging, who
has heard them read, executed with a very superior
^{degree} of elegance, and would repay the attention &
encouragement of the most enlightened audiences.
It would be very gratifying to Mr. Baldwin
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 your
good offices with the members of that Body to procure
for him the honor of an invitation from them, if you
see nothing in the application unusual or inadvisable.

I had the pleasure of writing

to you on other subjects a few days ago
from home, and remain, my dear sir,
very faithfully & truly yours
Wm. M. Burwell Esq. W. B. Rives.
Baltimore. -

W. B. Rives - 1854

Castle Hill 16 Dec. 1854.

My dear Sir,

I have had the pleasure of receiving your letter of 10th instant, & seize the first moment I have been ^{able} to obtain from some pressing calls to acknowledge it, & to say particularly how much gratification it would give us to have a Christmas visit from Mr. Tombs & yourself. I go to Alexandria on Wednesday to attend a meeting of our Rail-Road Directors, but expect certainly to return home on Saturday. On that day, we were under a promise to go to my brother's near Cheshamville & remain there till Tuesday, when they were to come down & spend the residue of the Christmas holidays with us here. But all this 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 & Mr. Tombs's convenience to come. Mr. Tombs is an old college friend of my brother, who, I am sure, would be delighted to see him, as well as yourself, at his house. It might be agreeable to him & yourself to meet us there, spend a day or two in the gay neighbourhood of the University & Cheshamville, & then come down & spend the residue of the Christmas with us. - I lay this whole programme before you that Mr. Tombs & yourself may make the arrangement that will be most agreeable & convenient to yourselves, and whatever that may be

it will be ^{the one} that will please us most. Be
so good as to write to me, after consulting Mr. Dobbs,
I let me know when we may hope to see you,
I we will, with the greatest pleasure & without
the slightest inconvenience or sacrifice of any kind,
conform our plans to yours. —

W. B. Peires 1854

You mention that you would
like to have a review of Edw. Peeters' "Thirty
years", which you think ought not to go down
to posterity without a just test against its many
errors. I have not got found time to read it,
but if I have a correct idea of the work, I do not
think there is much probability of its going down
to posterity at all. — The period he embraces is a most
important & interesting one, & well worthy of a candid
& impartial historical review. If I could persuade my-
self that I were capable of properly executing such a
task, my numerous private engagements, I am sorry
to say, are so burdensome, & so entirely occupy all
my time, that it would be ~~entirely~~ ^{altogether} out of my power
to undertake it. — Hoping to hear from
you very soon, & to see Mr. Dobbs & yourself, at any
time that may best suit your convenience, I

remain in great haste
very truly & faithfully
yours W. B. Peires.
Mr. R. Barwell Esq.

Castle-Hill 9 Oct. 1859.

My dear sir,

I have had the pleasure of receiving both of your late letters, so kindly renewing the hospitable summons of your first. I hope certainly to be with you on Tuesday. My wife would be too happy to make Mrs. Harall a visit at the same time. But my daughter Annie, & Mr. Sigourney are now with us; and she cannot leave them, during their accustomed sojournment with us. — The articles which you were so good as to order & select for them have been safely received; & they bid me return their warmest thanks to you for the trouble you were so good as to take in their behalf. —

With our joint & affectionate greetings to Mrs. Harall & yourself, believe me

most faithfully your friend

W. R. Rives

Dr. A. W. Harall.



My dear Sir,
 I have the pleasure of
 receiving your letter of the 11th inst. in relation
 to the purchase of a quantity of your
 goods. I have the honor to acknowledge
 the receipt of your order of the 11th inst.
 and in reply to inform you that the
 same has been forwarded to the
 proper authorities for their consideration.
 I am, Sir, very respectfully,
 Yours,
 J. W. Marshall

Leathe-Hill 18 Oct. 1864.

My dear Doctor,

I had the pleasure of receiving by the mail of yesterday your letter of 13th October. — I am very much obliged to you for laying in, on such good terms, the quantities 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 freight & toll on the stone in the check I sent you, as it saves the trouble of separate settlements to both of us. — We will not fail to apprise you, in good time, of the further articles we shall send you. — I received the few lines you had the kindness to write me respecting Mr. Pinney's wine. as this is an article which depends so much on actual taste & trial, I have concluded to

postpone my purchase, until
I shall have the opportunity
of previously testing the article. If
Mr. Quincy should send his wine
to Richmond, I should be very
much obliged to you to be my
taster, and if it should please
your palate, be so good as to
secure a gallon for me. I
find a little brandy truly 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, & cheerful amid the
events, military & political, which
are transpiring from day to day.
I am a disciple of Macanber, &
cannot help hoping that "some-
thing will turn up" for our
advantage. — Hoping before
long to be with you, & with
our mutual affectionate re-

gards to the Ladies & yourself, I
remain very truly & faithfully
yours
W^c Rives.

Dr. A. W. Husell _____
Richmond.
