

Dec 25 1803

Bizarre Christmas day

Heaven will certainly reward my most beloved friends' unbounded kindness to me. My heart palpitates with anxiety to see you - Over your ever welcome letters I shed tears of mingled joy, gratitude, and affection - Were you never again to notice me - it would be quite impossible to obliterate the sentiments with which you long ago inspired me - how often has your benevolent heart permitted me to sigh forth all my weaknesses, without reproach - may more, have I not uniformly experienced the benign influence of your tender indulgence - When aged to despair by every species of calamity - cast on a merciless world without a home - Under your hospitable roof I not only found an asylum but received unequalled proofs of Friendship and sympathy from your whole family - That invisible power who rules the universe can alone requite you - Altho' in imposing on you the language of complaint I invariably softened each subject as much as veracity would permit me - yet, what right had I, thus to trespass on your goodness? - None

Mary Randolph

Dec: 25. 1803.

am. 9 Jan'y 1. 1804.



Williamburg

Saint George Tucker

Farmville Dec^r 26th

Mail

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I have a train of visits, to my acquaintances, in con:
:templation - in making so many engagements I was
actuated by a hope of their promoting the accom:
:plishment of what has long been the darling wish
of my heart - namely, the power of once more being
in the dear abode of my more than Father -
nothing shall disconcert ^{my} plans, unless Judy
places me in a situation similar to that which
confin'd me here last winter - She is apparent:
:ly in perfect health at present, and intends
going to Amelia ere long - I have at length, partly
yielded, to my Mother's entreaties, and agreed
to accept necessary clothing annually, from him
nothing (altho' I really love him) could have
induced me to ^{alter} my resolution on this subject -
but the circumstance of having received a trunk
of goods from an unknown person who had
discovered my wants - at the moment, I submit
entirely, under this trial - To my beloved
M^r. Tuckman I am addressing myself, therefore

will forbear to apologise - Heaven bless you, and
my dear, good M^r. Tuckman, prays you fondly and
unchangeably attached A. L. D.