

would be an indelible stigma on any, or whether it may they  
forgive her, as I do. The injury she has done has almost  
main. I at first undertook to advocate her cause - altho' she  
had added her mite to <sup>the</sup> destruction of my last hope -

Nancy Randolph  
Dec. 17, 1804

Wm. Williamsburg  
Tachea Esq -

George  
Saint

Dec 17 1804

Wh. number of  
Boarders from  
Dr. Powell's

and Polly's  
with her  
and affections - A. C. G.

Adieu my dearest kindest Friend - I will never again impose  
such subjects on you - The certainty of leaving dear Bizarene  
next spring is not so painful as the continual dread of it was  
for many years - What I suffered when last compelled to go - cannot be  
surpassed - My fond love to Mrs F. Henry, Beverly, Ch...

Bizarene December 16<sup>th</sup> 1804

Let your gentle spirit of toleration bear once more with me  
my beloved Friend - heaven knows I am aware of the numberless trespasses  
committed on your patience already, by one who most ardently prays for  
your happiness - I could have forborne to trouble you again - (altho' I must  
always continue to say something expressive of affection) had I not been dis-  
gusted of all prospect of visiting you - Richard Randolph was to have been  
my escort, and he was obliged to disappoint me - consequently, I must re-  
sign myself - he would have carried me down last winter, or the winter  
before, but I was otherwise engaged each season - Wholly engrossed  
by my darling Sain's departure, and his mother's state of mind, and  
health - such as my Imagination, aided by some accounts, conceived them  
to be - I hastened hither - Alas! to receive a confirmation of what ex-  
perience should have taught me long ago. That when Judy relents, it is  
like a gleam of sunshine between two storms - When in distress, I first  
turn to my Creator for consolation - and next appeal to you - well know-  
ing your unbounded benevolence - I am at a loss whether to board in this  
neighborhood, or in Williamsburg to be near you, and my dearest Dr.  
Suchan would afford me more comfort than any other possible circum-  
stance - yet, with an heart so cruelly lacerated by sorrow, perhaps  
it were more proper to bury myself in obscurity - My Brother will urge  
me to reside in his family - to that, I am decidedly opposed altho' on  
the most cordial terms with each member of it - He will support me  
wherever I go - if Judy did it, she would eternally goad me with details  
of the inconsiderance to which it exposed her - Poor soul! Nature did  
not attend her heart to happiness - At the age of seventeen, just

married and surrounded by blessings - she was perpetually dissatisfied:  
I so long witnessed Dick's efforts to please, and the calmness  
with which he bore the attacks of petulance, that I felt an insur-  
mountable pleasure in following his example thus far - but, when  
a person objects, on the score of caprice, to my living with them -  
there remains only one mode of procedure - at least, within the  
compass of my ability - had I left the house abruptly, proclaim-  
ing that "Tudy turned me <sup>out</sup>" - as Sister P. and Mrs. Dudley did - the  
latter, on foot, after sunset, without having leave - it would have  
answered the purpose of the family here, exactly - I, however, should  
feel very differently - I declare to God that in the last six  
years I have never said a single word to Tudy without first con-  
sidering whether it could possibly be looked upon as a cause of offence  
and I call the same power to witness that what I have ever  
taken the liberty of communicating to you has been softened  
in the relation - and is not a thousandth part of the existing  
facts - Such is my devotion to this spot, I would have considered  
any sacrifice trivial by which I could have been enabled to  
remain - this, I was impolitic enough to avow - As my going  
is inevitable - I deem it a duty to acquiesce without another  
murmur - Often have I heard Tudy decry what she termed  
"a system of persecution" adopted where Chance had put it  
in the power of a person to exercise such oppression - but in  
a case which derived its color from her imagination, and  
the schemes she was indulging toward me - would to God  
she had imitated the example she chose to censure -

I confess my indignation was excited when I first discovered Tudy's  
plot for depriving me of Father's regard - What a tissue of evil should I  
have avoided had I but been bestowed on me a suspicious temper - Who  
could calculate on such a suggestion - when not aware of the  
design on which it is founded - My poor sister! (she is really to be pitied)  
had just <sup>told</sup> me she was insolvent - and that her boys would not go to  
a shiver; when, Mrs. Taylor called to see her - he spoke unreservedly  
of her pecuniary affairs, and his statement placed her in affluence -  
was I to blame for the faculty of hearing? I committed no other  
fault that time - Indeed, my dear Mrs. Tucker, such is  
the estimate your friend has long made of this world that she  
sees nothing desirable in it but Peace - whoever can attain that  
should decline all other aims - I am compelled sometimes to speak  
very painful truths - that respecting Maria Ward is among the  
number - let me conjure you not to suppose me  
influenced by prejudice in <sup>the</sup> smallest degree -  
She is a beautiful creature - from the character I gen-  
erally heard Father and Tudy give of Mrs. Meade - the daughter's  
particular faults were derived from her mother - in that case  
she merits compassion - Strange as it appears, I solemnly vow  
Tudy was the first person I ever heard express an unfavorable opi-  
nion of Maria - on a sudden she began to exalt her, during which  
time I know they had not met - Mrs. Meade and my sister were  
at variance and avoided each other when in the same neigh-  
borhood - My own observations confirmed what Tudy had asserted  
of Maria - and her conduct to the Coler family in Alburne