

To Judge B. Jackson
Professor of Law
at Mt. Vernon
Cecily

Wednesday evening 3rd July 1839

Dear Judge,

My intending to leave on the morning of tomorrow, will prevent me, from taking a farewell of you in person, I have therefore selected this mode, of acknowledging my thanks for the favours which you have so often and so cheerfully conferred on me - The only recompense that I can now tender you, for your attention to one so undeserving, is gratitude of the warmest and purest nature. I will further request that the instructive and entertaining ^{Lectures} delivered by you to the Law Class of 1838-39 have not been (I trust) without benefit to me, I will then before leaving, pledge my honour and every other consideration, that is near and dear to me, to use diligence in endeavouring to erect a creditable edifice, upon the base which you have arranged for me. I am confident that a course of this kind will secure continuance of your respect and approbation, which will be amply sufficient, at all times, to incite me to energy and industry. The want of time constrains me to conclude this desultory note, by again alluding to the feelings of gratitude, which I shall ever cherish, ^{for you} and the other distinguished Professors, with whom you are associated.

Your devoted friend
and
O. L. L. Lemont.
S. T. Morris

See Postscript on the opposite side

P.S. Before sealing this, I have concluded to add a word or two on a subject, in which I feel a deep and anxious interest. I find upon reflection, that it will be impossible for me to return the ensuing session, I am now twenty three years of age, and this renders it necessary, that I should at once, throw myself upon life's uncertain tide, and meet that destiny which awaits me. I find upon looking over the College Laws that the Faculty reserve to themselves, the right of alluding publicly, to the proficiency of any student who may be so situated, as not to obtain a degree. I hope if it can be done, or if you think me worthy of it, that you and the other Professors, will ever more extend to me your indulgence, and append a brief note to your proceedings, in regard to this subject, such an act of kindness (I am conscious) would greatly benefit me in my profession. My friends will with diligent eye sketch the report of your proceedings, it would of course be painful to them not to obscure my name among others. Then permit me in conclusion to ask you to act as my especial friend in this matter. Your compliance will secure the best & most ardent wishes of one who is proud that he has been a pupil of yours & also secure the lasting gratitude of his relations - Any notice of my course or attainment attached to the proceeding of Wm & Mary College would be truly gratifying to me. Remember me affectionately to Professors Chew & Audley, Millington & Downe - I hope your class the next session will be a large one.

Yours truly
S.W.H.

Because the impetuosity of this note has taken not the time to correct them

If my application, you need not mention it to any of the students they might think it a disparagement

[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting on the reverse side of the page, with significant water damage and staining.]