

Richmond Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> 1830

Dear Sir

I was much gratified by your letter of the 5<sup>th</sup> inst  
but should have been much more so had it brought the  
assurance that exercise, change of scene, and the  
society of amiable and beloved friends had improv-  
ed your health and spirits. At our time of life  
we cannot hope for a very large stock of either we are  
free from severe and our overwhelming affliction, but when  
oppressed by those severe calamities which overtake us  
so often in advanced life, it requires all our self con-  
trol, all our philosophy, I would rather say all  
our reason and resignation to that will which con-  
trolls all things, to preserve us some portion of equa-  
nimity.

I am much indebted to you for the kind  
recollection of me manifested by sending me the oration  
of Mr. Gouvier. I have read it with much plea-  
sure and congratulate you on the talent and sound  
sentiments it exhibits.

With the truest wish for your happiness  
and with great and respectful esteem  
I am dear Sir your friend & servant  
Wm. B. Lewis

1830

Dec 16 - 1830

Judith Marshall

John Marshall