Fredericksbg Jany 30th - 1838 -

My dear Sir,

I have a pleasing recollection of our meeting at Balto early in Decr on your return from England, & after years of separation since our first meeting at West Point - I hope I shall have the pleasure of seeing you here in march, when our Steamer the "Rappahannock" will again be in motion from Balto, weekly, & when you told me you would be here on your way further South -

Will you be able to spare me 40 or 50 young trees, for my promenade in front of my residence - the Tree of Heaven or any other favorite tree on your Shore, as ornamental & affording some Shade, & not of very large growth - my Gardens are on ~~my~~ one Side of my Walk, & the roots of large trees extending therein, would be exhausting & injurious to the Soil - The Locust Tree has been formerly much of a favorite in this quarter, & with me; but of late years an insect or worm preys upon the body, attacks the vital principle of the tree, & it soon decays & perishes - If you have any you can spare, & which you think will answer, they may be sent to my address, & c^o to the care of Alex^r Walls Esq, Light St wharf, Balto, who are the agents of our Steam boat -

I hope you & your family are in good Health, & remain, my dear Sir,

very truly yr friend & Sr,

Hugh [illegible]