the expense of my journey to the South to look after this property but yours also. In fact I have considered this lien, to a certain extent, as discharging my claim agst. you, and that it has been considered by you is clearly established by your not having returned me as a creditor in the list (as I understand) which you filed in Court when you petitioned. You may therefore readily conceive my astonishment and disappointment when I discovered that only eight days previously to the execution of this assignment to J. F. & W. H. F. you had executed another assignment to J. F. & N. J. by which an absolute preference is given to them, and by which my claim is entirely excluded until theirs is fully satisfied and paid. Why I have been thus treated I cannot divine; and how to account for it I am entirely at a loss. I hope you will be able, satisfactorily to explain it, otherwise I candidly confess it will go far to cut loose the bonds of friendship which has so long, and so strongly bound us together. Which may Heaven avert. There can be no mistake in the dates of the two assignments as they are now both before me. I shall go to Phila with John Henry on Thursday next for the purpose of binding him to an apothecary, and shall return on Friday when I shall hope to hear from you. As you have never intimated