

Philadelphia Jan^y 16. 1830

Dear Sir

Your favor of the 12th reached me yesterday, and in consequence of it I shall delay my visit to Maryland until I hear from you again, as it would be extremely inconvenient for me to make two journeys in that direction this winter - to say nothing of the expense - A cause of mine is however marked for trial at the present term of the Dist^{ct} Court which will require my presence, ~~therefore~~ I wish you would let me know as soon as you can whether there is a prospect of having the bill in question passed at once by your Legislature or rejected, so that I may arrange my journey with the trial - if I can get back from Maryland in a fortnight I will have ~~it~~ fixed ~~to~~ come on after my return; otherwise I would prefer to have it over before leaving home - and yet I do not wish to put off going to ~~the~~ farther than ten days from this time, as I have business which will call me to Jersey after attending to these two affairs - It appears to me singular

that there should be any difficulty made in granting permission to pass servants for a term of years only across an ideal line which divides the farm on which they work, a line they cross every day of their lives - and certainly the inconvenience to us of refusing the permission will be very great - It is necessary for me to make some provision for old

Mary, who is living with her son in this place - she came here when it was determined to break up the establishment at the Forest - Will you do me the favor to inform me what is the cost of maintaining an old woman in ^{your} neighbourhood, or at least to give me an estimate of it -

We have heard nothing as yet from our friend Mr Cummins, perhaps he expects to see me at Longmead - I must confess I should be glad to get the price we ask for the land, although I can