from the estate of late Judge Ellsworth —

I have not entirely finished the inventory of our store, but think it will very nearly if not quite equal, the money first invested — Our expenses have been very heavy in fitting up &c — we are now well established — known and doing a business that will yield a comfortable support for our family — collections now are impossible — and we must have money, or, our notes & drafts become protested — our credit lost — and the concern closed — Now the $1500 given me by Father last Spring ~~as~~ partly invested in the store, and has been expended in maintaining my family — I have no other possible resources except the Store to look to for a support, (and as I above remarked, it absolutely requires funds for its future success, so that I cannot now look to it — Never before have I been so pressed and distressed for money — Under these circumstances what am I to do —

I have tried in every direction to borrow money without success — Unless your kind advice, or Father's assistance, at once relieves me, I have but one course left — and that is, now whilst my property will hold out sell — pay my debts honestly — and then either get a situation through the influence of my friends — "I mean Van Buren" in the Army, for I would not be compelled to leave my Wife, by entering the Navy, or take whatever little may be left after my debts are paid and seek a subsistance in the South by my profession — for here it is impossible almost for a young Dr to get on — I most sincerely beg you, (and Father) for it is absolutely necessary — at once to advise me — for such is my unhappiness under my present difficulties — that I cannot longer endure it — This letter you will if you please, at once give Father, that you may have full time to consult & advise — Thank God we are all well —