children.

With regard to your particular situation, I should consider it a bold & hazardous measure to come with your wife & family to this country, unless you could bring with you, or were sure of obtaining from your Uncle here, something about, & not much less than $2000, such that sum, even if you were obliged to pay interest first, I think (where in the trading line in the country, only trading & farming considered, which by the bye is not an usual connection here) you would probably, if your habits & customs are not much changed, to provide yourself with substantial living, & provision for your family.

I cannot see, from your account, how you could comply with your Uncle's recommendation, to come out alone to America, leaving your family to follow you, or for you to return for them. Their support depends upon your presence & activity.

If you were determined upon coming, come all at once, but know well the ground upon which you move, for to come here without some property, would involve you in inexplicable difficulties, & could scarcely end well. Money is by no means so easily made here as many imagine, there is great competition in all kinds of trade, in all places, in many hands very considerable capital, & no want of capacity. Men with a little capital, industry, ability, & economy, there is scarcely a doubt of success, & there is not in my opinion any country upon the face of earth where people in the middle stations of life can be so happily & so advantageously settled. The common & general consent of all emigrants confirms my opinion. I most sincerely hope your affairs may be in that situation which I describe, or that by some means you have it in your power to bring them up to it, then I have no doubt your change of situation would be very pleasing to you. Perhaps it might be right to write your Uncle a little more explicitly upon your children and upon the measure. John Scott lives at present as Clerk with Mr Thomson. Mr Luke arrived here yesterday from Saint Domingo, he appears to be very well. Mrs White & the boys join me in compliments to Mrs Bernie & your Lordship's family.

John Phillips White