

March 8th 1825

Dear Father

I arrived here yesterday being Tuesday
Margaret who I found in Balt. did not wish to stay on
Sunday Mr Metcalfe sent Mr Thomson some barley
which arrived here before me he only expected 8¹/₂ but
Mr I paid him 90 I called on Harbison & wrote you
immediately from Balt. but Watty who was to have been
the bearer did not go & is now waiting until he hears
from his wife. I learnt from him the cause of his
leaving Virginia was, he fought a duel with a cousin
of his wifes the cousin (Ritchie) insulted him but
was too small for Watty to strike & the only way
was to challenge which he did. they exchanged two
shots each & accommodated, Watty was proscribed for
12 years six months yet unexpired

Harbison says you had better keep your flour for
some months till after harvest Rye 3¹/₂ & he would not
purchase for it had become a drug Wheat 4¹/₂ to 4³/₄
& no sale in one day last week 15,500 bbls were inspected
in Balt the roads are literally covered with waggons &
& so crowded in Balt that they can scarcely pass. I
will send you the seed together with this, I did not
pay I McAdam the bag & peas cost \$2.25 & I arrived here
with 75⁰⁰ in my pocket so that I could not say him

I made the proper enquiry concerning your taxes the person
who receives the tax of your real estate can not receive
less than the whole (the only man I ever knew who would
not receive money) You are charged with eight negroes
your present amount is fourteen the addition of the minors
upon a valuation would I believe increase rather than
diminish, the next valuation takes place next year
therefore I will let it stand as it is. If Watty should
go to you he says he will not make so long a visit as
I thought the Hog you sent him was very acceptable for
some time previous to his wifes departure the only