My Dear Friend

I have been long desirous to acknowledge the receipt of your welcome and kind letter of December last, which came duly to hand, but you having bid me to write on receipt of the Box, containing the seeds therein mentioned, I postponed replying until I might hear something of it, shortly after the arrival of your letter I wrote to Mr Keating, Cincinnati, who heard nothing of it, afterwards to a Mr Saunders, residing there, as no intelligence could be got; I wrote to David Logan merchant Baltimore, also to Forsyth & Co Wheeling, none of whom received any intelligence of it. I have since understood that any parcels, &c. to be forwarded to Cincinnati should be addressed to the care of some forwarding house at either Wheeling or Pittsburg the chance of coming on is not certain without being so directed - perhaps it may then do, if so I will endeavour to nurse the trees &c in the hole they may devote yet. I have now about 150 trees the best I could procure in this country, a few of which are Cole some fox & the remainder Burgundy. if some mishap doesnot take place I expect to have a little plantation ready to set out, finally, next season, had my health promoted last year I have no doubt but what I had in growth would have succeeded, but alas! I was not able to attend to them, our ground is exceedingly strong & productive & the weeds overrun every thing, without constant attendance - with my best thanks for your kind intentions had this assortment arrived in season it would be an invaluable treasure the white Currants & gooseberries invaluable in this Country where nothing of the kind is to be had. red currants I have of pretty good quality but not for making wine is

since I began to write this letter now two weeks on hands. I have heard that Mr Keating of Cincinnati has been unfortunate and not able to appear publickly, this may perhaps be the cause of the Box going astray, in any last I enclosed a Letter for Genl R^d Johnson also the Pile Coupons I wrote about, have you forwarded them, my claim on Genl Johnson was great which he acknowledged & I have no doubt he is a feeling honorable man if living he will acknowledge my letter, I have been truly unfortunate in quitting my native country without being so many good friends, but all may be for the better, I venture to trouble you again to forward from Baltimore a letter to my son John, Belfast, he has a Relation & correspondents in Baltimore, I feel for putting you to the trouble and expence, I have written to England via N Orleans, but have got no answer although the inland postage was paid here.

Thos J. Phillips Esq
Postmaster
Abingdon
Va

Abingdon Mass Co.
17 March 1828
O Shaw

Dear Sir
Your letter of the 17th ult. was duly received & I am happy to learn that the contents of the Box arrived safe & in good order.

My dear Friend do write me a few lines directed as before
I am Dear Sir Mrs S & family in best wishes and believe
me most truly yours R Shaw Junr

Abington Wayne Co
Ind. 17th Mar 1828