My Dear Friend -

Your esteemed letter with the enclosure came to hand, in 12 days, for which accept my grateful thanks; it was from one of my daughters, in England, expressing her ardent desire of coming to me; but alas! I know not how to have this accomplished; although I am persuaded her being with us, would be a blessing beyond calculation - when residing in Liverpool, I apprenticed her to a first rate House, in consequence to a woman of great business and abilities, as well as a most excellent character, after being two years there I sent her to London, to have her accomplished in the fancy dry mokery, and Milinery business - she now resides at, Elesmere, Shropshire, England and writes me she is perfect mistress of her business, and would cheerfully undergo all hardships to be with us. (but I praise my child; I believe I can safely say, she is almost [redacted] unparalled, in every good and amiable disposition; I wish you could see her letters - she corresponds regularly with my Mr John - leaving her behind us, was a great grievance; but it was with an intention of completing her, in her professional trade. I then proposed sending her via Baltimore; but poor child, she says that could I do, without the means of defraying my expence [redacted] where you live, in a strang country without protection & the great acquisition she would be to me, to educate my children, & leave them a business where they could in this country earn their bread by - and my dear Patty, I am not going to be left long over them; may that almighty God, from whom I have experienced so much kindness, prepare me for this change, my eye sight is nearly gone, I am almost as deaf as poor John, the incessant pains I labour under, with a general debility, indicates my speedy removal, - indeed the fever & health throughout all this Country, has been universally bad, the autumn of this season, and a great many have died particularly since the week of the most incessant heat ever known in this Country, Mrs S. has been very ill since I wrote you, almost half her time unable to make about, two of the little girls have also been a longtime ill, but thank God they are all now convalescent - Mrs S desires her affect regards to Aster, was determined I should write her, by this conveyance but her strength & spirits both fails her, with kind God with very warm

[illegible] I presented last season on Whiskey and lost considerably by it - could I have early information if he deposited when, it might serve me - I am glad to hear of the good prospects you have of your mill yet, & like you will live long to enjoy the prosperity, - why tax Brotherly (Kindness) so high. & admit the introduction of Rum, Sherry Portugal & K. on so very low duty, in bulk - Yankey doodle, will bring Johnny to blows. Look at this days Georgia. N & South Carolinas Virginia & c. all the southern States, I hardly believe will seek a disunion, but I sincerely hope not - now for another request, a few white Currants Gooseberries Raspberrys & vine Cuttings. next fall, say Nov. or sooner - don't say I am a boring boring Scotch Man - if you can read this it is as much as I can do, attend Dear Charles & make a bowow for the Lord My wife & family join in best wishes & believe me, dear Patty most sincerely yours - R S

July 17 1828

My dear Patty

I am writing this letter, in the bright light of the moon, I could write from memory alone

Yours ever affy

Rec'd Sept 1828

Rec'd Sept 28

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