the great extensions & removals which during the last winter have been resorted to here & elsewhere one half of the community would be totally destroyed & worse than insolvent. The Subtreasury plan passed the Senate but on Harrison being brought out the house refuses to call it up until they can discuss his chance — if it be good it will not be passed but if the party feel strong it will so hangs the fate of millions on politics. Now under these circumstances what better can I do than hold on. If I give up there is no avenue open to enter at anything & it is a mistaken idea in these times that in a large population something can always be found, in better times men without capital have done it & they will again be able to do it, but both public & private confidence at present is nearly cut short. If the present powers remain in office things must remain so too as long as an opposition is carried on & however improper it may be, we certainly have no control over public action & must submit to circumstances beyond our control. If a change be effected & Harrison elected the public & private money institution will feel they will have in the change of representation which will follow a certainty that no more experiments will be tried, public confidence will be restored & the people taught, that for fear of another change they must not do so large & uncontrollable a business. Now here I am in the midst of this dilemma, if I give up the half loaf where can I find another, if I hold on & a change takes place it will effect me in common with others. Now I do not wish you to say any thing about, but a gentleman of good practice in Westminster will leave there after the Court & if I possibly can I will be up at Court to look into the propriety of a removal, but here is another inducement to hold on here — if the Methodists were take me up as they did Webb who had a practice of 700 per annum by removal I would lose that chance & I am endeavouring to effect that matter. Webb's conduct will deter them for some time I suppose but my friends seem to think it must take place eventually. The only dread I have is I may not be able to hold out to meet it. I am advised that a change in the administration would operate an immediate change in all the states & an immediate change in money matters —. I cannot but think that providence in taking me into the Methodist church where I had not been, scarcely ever went & to which I was so totally averse had an object in view for until an hour before I went down to that church I did not know it was open or any revival going on there. I look on myself as having been literally carried in there nolens volens & having got into it conscientiously I hold I am at liberty to make use of it to the best advantage. A crisis hangs over me for within 2 or 3 weeks my fate must be determined one way or other, it may be not 10 days off, I am in the hands of a wise God who I hope will temper the storm to the shorn lamb, he has done so before & I hope there is no less cause for it now & I therefore feel disposed to submit to my fate indeed I do not know what else to do. The wisdom of man is but at best vanity & I cannot expect to be wiser than others when all are thrown into a state beyond their control we can only use the best our judgt dictates looking above for its direction if we use the means & still go wrong we are not to blame, but that is scarcely to be expected or looked for. Many are looking to farming as the only sure way to get food & raiment at any rate & so would I if I could. If I could by any possibility disencumber my farm I would have it converted to it it would then come in some day. If the Methodists take me up my fortune is made. One of the preachers told me one day of Shelton

and those people being active partisans our representatives wont interfere with their prerogatives. I rec^d the meat & things sent & thank you for them, H. is now at Washington where she went on Wednesday & she has laid away the bag but I will write to her about it. Eddy went to Frederick on Tuesday I presume H will be absent a month I wish to keep her away as much as possible owing to the difficulty with servants who are thinned here by 7 or 800 having gone to Trinidad. The Meth Conference of the U S is in session here & it is a first rate man Mr Newton from Engl^d as a representative from the Church there. Mr Van B. told me yesterday he had rec^d a very kind letter from Mr. Leacock his great works interest & seemed to think it was a matter not to be neglected. I have had my head phrenologically examined & he certainly did as far as I knew myself give me my true character my great deficiencies were self esteem & firmness & the 2^d nothing could ever save me from total ruin but my intellect rising up to supply their deficiencies — What a bout yr Washington hotel sooner than you should give them up we will pay the arrearages if you will give them to H for the boys. I cant say anything just now about removal, Mr B. did not write I am trying to get an office here which will not interfere with my business worth say $1000 & we'll know next week. I have no doubt about the advantages in a pecuniary point of view but the disadvantages of so much spare time without any particular vocation yet reading is serviceable as a constant occupation to some but not to all to me in general & so you have found it

its relation to yself it is nearly time wasted there is in that County about 20 000 people & certainly no lawyer of any distinction now in such a population there must pay will be much business in ordinary times, but to get them would take at least 1000 or 1200 $ What I owe here chiefly say 500 as scattered — 400 would enable me to leave & then I would require more books, for there are but few there & I have not what is necessary & then I might expect to live there say 12 mos before much would come in. Here I am surrounded by good libraries. I feel assured 2000 might be made there the 2^d or 3^d year Nelson says 3000 that there is no one there to attend to business & not a practical man is the reason there is not more made

For "Stray" see Latrobe 2^d Edition under that title in the index or at p 256 section 1206 &c

My removal to Westminster would be attended with many unpleasant circumstances & the only possible advantage would be that I might make more than my expences but the advantage of a city for general education & bringing up boys as men of business is very great

With love to all Your text

Bonie Jr